

# Public Libraries

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## Three Kinds of Librarians\*

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public library

(Concluded)

The other day, sitting in a stalled trolley car, my eye fell upon a street-cleaner, and I began to watch him with interest. He was busy—apparently, I was going to say, but that does him injustice. He was really busy. While I watched him—and the car was delayed for some little time—he was constantly at work, pushing over the asphalt the broad scraper that was intended to rid it of dust and refuse. And yet he did not clean the street, for he took no account of the inequalities of its surface. These required intelligent adaptation of his movements at every instant, and to this he paid no attention. He went through the motions; his actual expenditure of physical energy was probably as great as if he had mixed a little brain-work with it, but it failed to accomplish what it ought, simply from that lack. And yet it would have been difficult for any overseer to give him orders that would have bettered the matter. It would have been hard to point out at any given instant, his errors of commission or of omission. The only way in which one could tell that he was not doing his work properly was by the result. He was put there to clean the street—and the street was not cleaned.

So with the librarians of yesterday and the day before. They are hard workers, not idlers. They have the tools, and they go through the motions. They may tire themselves out with their labor. Their library build-

ings may be attractive and clean; their technique perfect, their books well selected and in good order, their catalogs excellent. It is hard to point to any one thing that they are doing incorrectly or that they are omitting. And yet we must judge their work by its fruits; they are put into a community of actual or potential readers in charge of a collection of books. What are these for, if not to be read? Yet many remain untouched. For what purpose have the schools taught the townspeople to read? Thousands of them make no good use of that knowledge. To the librarian of to-day the non-realization of this and the lack of effort to remedy it means failure. In order to make a little more definite our ideas of these three kinds of librarians, let us consider one or two very practical problems and see how each would probably view them and act upon them.

First. The library circulates no books on plumbing. For the librarian of the day before yesterday, this is no problem at all. Probably his library has no books on plumbing. His library is not for plumbers, and he has never suspected that it could be. As for the plumbers in his community, they too have never considered the possibility that they might learn something of their work from books in a public library. They are therefore silent and uncomplaining. Peace reigns and there is a general state of satisfaction all around—the satisfaction of blissful ignorance and of the day before yesterday.

The librarian of yesterday, on the other hand, sees the problem clearly and is concerned about it. He has good books on plumbing and nobody reads

\*Read before the Missouri library association, Sedalia, November 18, 1914.

them. Evidently the more advanced grade of the librarian has not affected the plumbers—they still remain in ignorance of the public library. But what is he to do? Here is the library; here are the books; here is the librarian, ready and willing to distribute them to all who may come. If the generation—or any part of it—is so wicked and perverse that it comes not, what is there to do? What, indeed! And so library and community remain in the twilight of yesterday just before the dawn.

The librarian of to-day not only sees the problem and is concerned about it, but he proceeds to do something. Just what he does or how he does it is of far less consequence than the fact that he sees action in the matter to be necessary and possible. He may go personally and interview the plumbers; he may send them lists; he may get permission to address the plumbers' union; he may do one or many of a thousand things to remedy matters, and although it is certain that what he does will not be completely effective, it is equally certain that it will have *some* good effect, which is the main thing.

Problem Second. Examination of the registry list shows that there are practically no card holders in a certain part of the town. As in the former case, this is no problem at all to the day before yesterday librarian. Its existence would in general not appear to him, certainly not as the result of any kind of statistical investigation. If he were informed of it he would regard the fact with complacency. The library is for readers, and if certain persons are non-readers they had better keep away. Nothing could be simpler. The librarian of yesterday, on the other hand, feels that all is not right. It is certainly too bad that when library privileges are offered free to all, so large a portion of the community should fail to take advantage of them. The library stands ready to help these people, if they will only come. Why don't they?

The librarian of yesterday thus stops with a question; the librarian of to-day proceeds to answer it. He finds out why they don't come. He may discover one or more of any number of things; whatever may be the causes, they are sure to be interesting, at least to him, for the to-day librarian is a born investigator. It may be that the non-readers are literate, but take no interest in books; perhaps they say they have no time to read; possibly the library has not the kind of books that they like; they may be foreigners, reading no English, and the library may have no books in their tongue. Whatever the trouble may be, the librarian of to-day sets about to remedy it. He may not succeed; but it is the diagnosis and the attempt at treatment, not its success, that constitute him what he is.

Problem Third. The reading done through the library is trivial and inconsequential. The fiction drawn is of low order, and there is little else read. The way in which this will affect the three types of librarian may be predicted at once. The librarian of the day-before-yesterday heeds it not; the librarian of yesterday heeds and perhaps worries, but does nothing. The librarian of to-day finds out the trouble and then tries to remedy it.

And so it goes: you may construct other problems for yourselves and imagine their solution, or lack of solution.

Now, it is obvious that there are great and evident objections to being a librarian of to-day and corresponding advantages in being one of the other kinds. In the first place the to-day variety of librarianship involves brainwork and it is always difficult to use one's brain—we saw that in the case of the street-cleaner. Then this kind of librarian must be always looking for trouble. Instead of congratulating himself that all is going smoothly, he must set out with the premise that all cannot be going smoothly. There must be some way in which his books can be made to serve more people and

serve them better; and it is his business to find out that way. Then the to-day librarian must use his statistics. The librarian of the day before yesterday probably takes none at all. The librarian of yesterday collects them with diligence, but regards any suggestion that they might be of use somewhat as the lazy wood-sawyer did the advice that he should sharpen his saw. "I should think I had a big enough job to cut up all this wood," he replied petulantly, "without stopping to sharpen saws." The librarian of yesterday has trouble enough in collecting and tabulating his statistics without stopping to use them—to make any deductions from them—to learn where the library machine is failing and where he should use the wrench or the oil can. All these things and many others make it easier for the overworked librarian to drop back into yesterday, or the day before. It should be borne in mind, however, that the difference between the three types of librarian is not so much a difference in the amount of work done as it is in attitude of mind. The librarian of to-day does not necessarily expend more energy than the librarian of day before yesterday—but it is expended in a different direction and with a different object. It is to be feared that some librarians of small libraries allow themselves to become discouraged after reading of the great things that have been accomplished by large institutions with plenty of money to spend—the circulation of millions of books yearly, the purchase of additions by the tens of thousands, the provision of exhibitions for the children, the story-telling by professionals, the huge collections on special subjects, technology, art or history. It almost seems as if success were simply a matter of spending and as if without money to spend, failure should be expected as a matter of course.

On the contrary, all that the money does is to make possible success on a large and sensational scale—without the proper spirit and the proper workers the result might be failure on a

scale quite as sensational. And an enthusiastic spirit, a high aim and unflagging energy—these are things that no money can buy and that will bring success on the small scale as on the large one.

We are fortunate—we who have charge of libraries and are trying to do something worth while with them—that there is perhaps less of the spirit of pure commercialism among us than among some other classes of workers. For this, in part, we have to thank our inadequate salaries. Persons who desire to work simply for the material reward will select some other field. We are glad to get our reward—we certainly earn it; but I venture to say that in the case of most of us there is also something in the work that appeals to us. And that something is the thing that, pushed to its furthest extent, will bring the dawn of to-day into the most backward library. It is not a very inspiring thing simply to sit down and watch a pile of books—hardly more so, I should think, than to take care of a pile of bricks or a load of turnips. Interest, enthusiasm, inspiration, come with realization of the fact that every one of those books has a mission and that it is the librarian's business to find what it is and to see that it is performed. In the large, wealthy institution this duty may be accompanied by the expenditure of vast sums, and may be performed with the aid of things that only large sums of money can buy; in the small library there may be but a single librarian and only a few dollars to spend. But, just as in the case of a city librarian with an ample salary, she has open to her the choice of those three types of librarianship—the day before yesterday, yesterday and to-day.

And how about the librarian of tomorrow? Perhaps it may be as well to leave him or her for future consideration; but I cannot help saying just a word. May it not be that in the days to come we shall have enough civic pride to do whatever we may find to do—in our libraries or anywhere else,

not with our eyes fixed only upon the work itself, important as that may be, but with the broader viewpoint of its effect upon the whole community? May it not be that this librarian of to-morrow will ask not, "Will it raise my circulation?" or even "Will it improve the quality of my reading?" but "Will it better the reading that is done in this community?" That librarian will not rejoice that his library circulation of good novels has dropped, when he realizes that twice as many bad novels are bought and read outside. He will be pleased that the children in his library have learned to wash their hands, but chiefly because he hopes that what they have learned may react upon the physical cleanliness—and perhaps on the moral cleanliness, too—of the community. Much as he will love the library, he will love it as an agency for the improvement of the community in which he lives and works, and he will do nothing for its aggrandizement, expansion or improvement that involves a change of the community in the opposite direction. We shall not see one library rejoicing because it has enticed away the users of some other library; we may even see a library rejoicing that it has lost its readers in Polish history, we will say, when it becomes known that they have gone to another library with a better collection in that subject.

I confess that I am looking forward to the day when we shall take this view—when the adage "Every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost" may be forgotten among institutions in the same town. The policy that it represents makes for high speed, perhaps, but not for solidarity. In a fight such as we are waging with the forces of ignorance and indifference we should all keep shoulder to shoulder. This is why the librarian should say: "I am a citizen; nothing in this city is without interest to me." That is why he should be a librarian of to-day, and why he may even look forward with hopefulness to the dawn of a still better to-morrow.

### Necessary Red Tape

J. E. Goodwin, librarian, University of Texas, Austin

This paper embodies a discussion of some of the ordinary methods for promoting regularity in the several departments of the library. Phases of ordering, classifying, cataloging, and shelving are discussed, because they sometimes present entanglements for the faculty man and the student.

The faculty man often fails to take into account the necessary time element in the process of procuring books for the library and sometimes he counts upon books, from which he has taken his references in a distant place, being in the home library, when there is no entry for them in the catalog.

Perhaps classification presents more reasonable and indeed more fruitful grounds for difference of opinion between the librarian and the reader than any other library process.

"Why is this book placed here?"

"This book ought to be classified in the group I use in connection with my course in engineering."

"Really, now, no one would think of looking for that book in any other connection than this."

These sentiments will be expressed in various ways, depending for their force on the temperament of the man whose sense of intellectual relationships has been offended by the grouping of the books.

When the professor discovers that he differs with the classification, he can find an easy way out of his difficulty by making a friend and confidant out of the card catalog. As soon as the librarian squares his classification with the ideas of a particular professor, he is almost sure to place it on a bias with those of another, and the latter may have the greater capacity for saying unpleasant things.

In practice, however, the card catalog is seldom consulted by the faculty man except when the book wanted is not found on the shelves where his preconceived notion would place it: and I conceive that in this point lies the foun-



dation for the feeling, in occasional men, that the catalog and classification may be depended upon to be a few points out of true.

When we have our books so placed that their positions are perfectly defensible, then we are justified to let our mental bias govern the situation. The work we do in changing records seems out of all proportion to what should be warranted. Perhaps the conditions for necessity of change in the records arise because we are too often led to classify for a special and temporary purpose, when the book might better be given a number it could hold for all time.

A general plan of department libraries, unless it is conducted on a system of duplicating copies before they are transferred to the departments, tends to remove from the main library many of the purely technical books and serial sets covering the fields represented. This system leaves for the main library the antiquated and obvious books in these subjects but does not leave a really scholarly collection.

Some instructors and an occasional professor manage to keep just far enough ahead of their classes, in preparing lectures, so as to draw out the books on their personal accounts just before assignments are announced or syllabus sheets distributed. This practice tends to throw students behind in their reading and is often a source of embarrassment to the librarian.

With many instructors, however, the annoyance from this source is purely a negligible quantity; and the librarian finds not only that the materials for class use are in their places when the demand for them commences, but he is often notified that certain material will be needed at a given time.

References sometimes appear which, to the student, mean absolutely nothing and, to the librarian, mean some one has blundered. These come about in several ways. The reference may be to an analytic which the assistant will not recognize on sight, having failed to fix in his memory all the entries in the card catalog, together with references in Poole

and other periodical indexes. Sometimes an elaborate syllabus is handed to the students in which publishers, dates, and prices of books are given. Then we get such call slips as this presented: "Heath and Company, 1898." The student will probably look at you in surprise when told that the information he is furnishing tells absolutely nothing from which we can identify the book wanted. Of course the student, in a case like this, has perversely selected the strictly non-essential part of the entry and excluded the essentials—namely the author and title.

If you raise the question as to why call numbers are not always required before call slips are accepted, I would answer that they are not needed in a large proportion of cases. The time used by students in procuring numbers for 75 per cent of their books would be wasted.

#### A Library Coöperative Cooking Club

Ruth H. Todd, Public library, Washington, D. C.

Since October, there has been in operation in the Public library at Washington, D. C., a coöperative scheme of serving hot luncheons to the staff. The success of the undertaking is now assured and the cost is but 35 cents per week (or five and five-sixths cents per day) for each person.

Six luncheons are served to each person—one on each week day in two shifts, one at noon and another to the night force after six o'clock. The same menu is served both noon and night. We have from 60 to 75 participants each week, a large proportion of the central library staff.

The central library is open each week day, from nine a. m. to nine p. m., which means, for the public departments, that two shifts are required to do the work. This schedule is alternating so that one is compelled to work two or three evenings a week. The need for a hot meal is most pressing for those who work at night and consequently are away from their homes at the dinner hour. As the

period allotted for luncheon is a half hour only, you can readily see that the time left for eating is so short, if one is ambitious enough to try to prepare *something hot* for oneself, as to be almost impossible from the point of view of health. Now the simple, but wholesome, luncheon is ready and we who dine in the evening, with a little stretch of the imagination, can almost believe ourselves comfortably at home, and, presto! the drudgery of the evening work disappears.

Of course conditions for buying are not the same in all cities. We, in Washington, are most fortunate in having excellent city markets where most advantageous prices can be secured on perishable foods. Here also can be found the farmer and the commission merchant who sell at wholesale. We buy in large quantities all articles of food such as potatoes, apples, butter and all canned goods, which enables us to save considerably on the retail price. We have purchased first class butter all winter at from 30 to 32 cents, when the retail price was not under 40 cents. So, in the matter of meats, an order of 15 pounds of beef, for instance, is of enough value to a butcher to make him vie with his neighbor in securing your patronage. We had only to advertise our plans a little to be over-run with tradesmen showing their wares and asking us to give them a trial. We had a most interesting tilt between two prominent bakers in our city, each declaring the superior excellence of his bread over any other and asking permission to serve us one week free. Needless to say we enjoyed a bread fest, for every variety known to (baker) man was put before us. It was not without some little sympathy for the defeated contestant that we finally made our decision.

There are two very important factors in conducting this scheme on a truly economical basis. One is in having a cook who can gauge the quantity of food correctly and also to be able to utilize to advantage anything that may be left over, and the other, equally important, is in having your variety in the menu

from day to day rather than at one meal. For instance, have one principal dish and a fruit, or such accessories as you may choose, in such quantity as to be sufficient rather than have three or four dishes at a time. In other words, let your menu be simple and economical, except as to quantity.

Perhaps two weeks' menu will give you some suggestions:

**Monday:**

Baked macaroni with tomatoes.  
Stewed apples. (Bread with every meal.)

**Tuesday:**

Irish stew.  
Prunes.

**Wednesday:**

Creamed potatoes.  
Stuffed tomatoes.

**Thursday:**

Baked rice with cheese.  
Stewed apricots.

**Friday:**

Creamed tuna fish.  
Baked potatoes.

**Saturday:**

Hashed brown potatoes.  
Lettuce and tomato salad.

**Monday:**

Creamed potatoes.  
Fruit salad.

**Tuesday:**

Succotash.  
Cranberry sauce—hot rolls.

**Wednesday:**

Cream of celery soup.  
Baked rice, buttered.

**Thursday:**

Creamed peas and carrots.  
Brown betty.

**Friday:**

Baked beans.  
Cold slaw.

**Saturday:**

Beef roll—tomato sauce.  
Baked apples.

The menu is prepared a week in advance, supplies secured as far as possible so as to relieve the purchaser of the care of the kitchen. We post one menu in the kitchen for the cook and one in easy reach of the staff so that, at any time the menu is not personally pleasing, it may be supplemented from home.

The members of the club are all required to pay one week in advance not later in the week than Friday. Many pay for the month in advance. This is a most desirable arrangement as it works

no particular hardship on the person and is most convenient for the purchaser, securing the treasury against any emergency that might arise.

At the time of writing, I have been visited by a wholesale merchant offering us all articles of food, meats, provisions, and green groceries, at the same price at which they are furnished to smaller dealers. This is most gratifying indeed, and as the price list undersells many articles which we regularly purchase and on which we were formerly getting good prices, we shall be quick to take advantage of this opportunity. He offers also quick delivery, which lightens the responsibilities of the purchaser considerably, as much of the ordering can be done by phone.

We have worked out our plan on the lowest possible basis of expenditure, so as to be available to *all* employees. The largest regular item of expense each week is the cook's wages. A rate of 35 cents per week is only possible with a club of not less than 60 participants.

The members of our staff, almost without exception, have united in this coöperative plan and we hear on all sides expressions of gratitude and many who declare that their luncheon expenses are less than formerly. The matter of caring for the health of employees is becoming more and more the concern of large employers. It is part of the tremendous march of events in the world's progress. Librarians should be keenly alive to all these things and not be slow to organize to help one another to anything that is for the welfare of their co-workers. The librarians' problem is one of conservation of health and energy, which, by reason of the nature of their task, means daily expenditure of their very best in body and mind. I feel, after a fair trial in our own library of a plan which is successful from all points of view, that all librarians would be wise in at least trying out a scheme which seems to us to have solved the old time problem of properly and adequately supplanting the paper-bag luncheon.

### Practical Hints on the Conservation of Books

J. Christian Bay, The John Crerar library, Chicago

#### The warping of bindings

The dry and hot atmosphere commonly prevailing in libraries often reacts unfavorably on new bindings and on books transmitted a long distance before they are suddenly unpacked and handled in routine. In many cases bindings, particularly vellum, or vellum-back, sheep, boards, and certain kinds of cloth, warp out of all resemblance when coming out of the moist hold of a ship, the raw air of a warehouse and the far from dry interior of a freight car straight into the dry and heated air of a library work-room or office. The outer edges and particularly the corners, curve outward, owing to their rapid drying. The remainder of the binding and the body of the book dry slowly in their natural shape, but the warping of the binding remains, unfortunately it is irreparable. Pressure between moist surfaces and subsequent dry pressure does not avail. If placed on the shelves and pressed in among other volumes, the books with warped bindings will damage their neighbors, and their own backs will rapidly weaken and crack at the hinges.

A very simple remedy against this trouble is the following: In winter, or in moist weather allow the books to dry by degrees before they are handled. Pack them fairly closely on trucks for a few days at some distance from radiators. And, better still, slip a rubber band over the fore-edges, another over the hinge from top to bottom, and one or two around the middle of the books, and allow them to remain in this condition for a few days. In some cases the procedure must be continued for another few days, until the books are uniformly dry. Vellum dries very slowly.

#### A dose of castor-oil

Leather, particularly in these days of chemical tanning, dies rapidly on the Western hemisphere. As everybody knows, dust is its worst enemy—dust and heat. I find castor-oil a very efficient

agent in the preservation of leather backs. Beeswax and vaseline are of little value, but castor-oil is absorbed eagerly by every kind of dry leather and renders it soft and pliable. Several books which threatened to crack at the hinges have been watched for several years. The treatment consists in a thorough cleaning with a soft brush and a gentle beating of the books if their strength permits, whereupon castor-oil is applied with a linen rag and dapped on rather than rubbed. After each application the book is allowed to stand in a cool place to dry. Experience will show how much of the oil should be applied; in some cases, two or three moderate applications, with a day's interval, will be absorbed readily. The application should be as even as possible. After a week or so the surface may be gone over with soft beeswax and rubbed lightly,—this restores some of the smooth finish originally existing. No person not a bookbinder should trust himself to use varnish.

Sweet oil has been found liable to run through leather backs into the body of books, but castor-oil has not done so in my experience. Naturally, it should be used with care and never in such amounts that it will gather in drops on the surface of the leather.

Let it be said here, in addition, that a dry rub, or a faintly moist rub, with a clean cloth, will help to preserve leather bindings. It is the fine dust, which cannot be sucked, or blown off, that does the mischief.

*Garden Spots* is the name of a new periodical devoted to vacant lot and backyard gardening, the first number of which appeared in January. It is published by A. A. Allen, of Chicago, and judged by the first number, will be a very helpful publication for those interested in the "City Beautiful" anywhere. The periodical is illustrated, and contains definite information of how to do definite things, with description of things already done. Libraries would find this a most desirable addition to their list of periodicals. It is suitable for the small library as well as for the large one.

### Relation Between Libraries and Schools as Shown by Current Educational Publications

For a number of years past I have handled a large amount of educational material and as my keen interest has been in the development of the school libraries I have sometimes hurriedly and sometimes with great care examined the magazines, books, pamphlets and reports to see what the attitude of school people is toward the library. I have come to the conclusion that most school people do not consider the library as such, but are still thinking of collections of books. My conclusion has been strongly influenced by the following observations.

In the recent movement which has spread across the country to survey all phases of the school situation from expenditures for the smallest supplies to the school's broadest social significance it is seldom that the school library or the public library has been included. One may test the truth of this statement by looking through the table of contents and the index of the published surveys which in the case of New York City fills three large volumes and in cities doing less pretentious work in this line is printed as part of the school superintendent's annual report. There are a few splendid exceptions, but in most cases the authorities have been content to mention only text-books, supplementary reading and some regulations regarding their purchase. In one large city I am told that the office for the School survey was located in the Public library building, but the completed survey forgot to mention the public library's work for education. This case seemed strangely consistent with the present attitude of school men, as this city ranks among the leading ones of this country in the amount and excellency of the work its public library is doing for the children and teachers of the city. It was also among the first of the public libraries to undertake extensive work with children and its publications have been a guide to other pub-

lic libraries not only in America but in many countries abroad.

I have recently gone through more than a thousand current reports made by the state and city school authorities on all sorts and kinds of subjects and printed at public expense. I might fill many pages with the diversity of subjects and interests represented by the school people in these reports that are sometimes issued in bound volumes and again in pamphlets of all sizes and shapes. It is not difficult to find the "school library list" among these publications, but this is about the extent of the library's representation. The library itself as an educational agency is ignored. New York, Wisconsin, Oregon and a few other states give leaven in some parts of the country and show what excellent work may be done, but on the whole it is a sad story for the library as it reads in these reports.

It is strange how many books have been written within the last five years on school administration, the curriculum and various other phases of school work, including long discussions of the extension and social work of the school, with no mention or perhaps barely a mention of the library in the school or the school's relation to the public library. Such books as C. H. Johnston's *High school education*, and his *Modern school education*, C. A. Perry's *Wider use of the school plant*, and J. B. Davis' *Vocational and moral guidance*, with a very few others indicate how few school people realize the educational possibilities of the modern library or even what the public libraries of their communities are doing for the children.

The various educational associations also publish reports of meetings and papers read at these meetings. Librarians are familiar with the reports of library work made by the National education association, the National council of teachers of English and a few other associations, but again we find that the library as such has received little consideration on the programs of educational organizations.

A glance through the *Readers' Guide*

for the last few years will show how little magazine literature school people have written about the library, though a number of them have written on the value of children's reading.

Clearly enough this is a great field where library interests should be active and where we find comparatively little being done. As in the history of other phases of library development so in this it seems to me, the librarian must take the initiative. In many places it will be simply asking that recognition be given a splendid educational agency in active operation.

The following practical ways of entering this field are suggested to librarians:

1. Ask the state superintendent of instruction to include in his annual report some statement regarding the school libraries and the relation of the public library to the school libraries.

2. Ask the city superintendent of schools to do the same.

3. Ask the state superintendent of instruction to circulate throughout the state a pamphlet giving the advantages of having an organized school library in every high school, of having library supervision for the elementary schools and of having schools cooperating with the public libraries in the cities and towns.

4. Ask the school men making surveys in the various state, city and rural districts to include the library facilities in their reports.

5. The American library association might formulate some suggestions to send to state superintendents of instruction, organizations doing educational work such as the Russell Sage foundation, etc., showing the value of cooperation between libraries and schools. But even if all the library organizations take all the measures here suggested and more too, it will still be of great value to have each librarian follow through all the channels possible in his city and state to see that the suggestions take effect.

6. Ask every educational organization that you know to give the library consideration on its next program. Librarians must then be ready to offer suggestions as to what that consideration should be and where appropriate material may be found for the papers and discussions. There are now many ready speakers among the librarians who have been successful in stirring even the most apathetic audiences. But usually school people will not now be found indifferent to this subject, for they are in-



tent upon making their schools efficient. The library, with its trained workers, is an agency to offer much in this line.

I would suggest that in the presentation of this subject the librarians may find valuable suggestions in a new book recently published by Willard C. Brinton, *Graphic methods for presenting facts*. (Engineering Magazine Company, 1914.)

IRENE WARREN, Librarian.

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### Library Science\*

The responsibility for training teachers in library methods and science is coming to be felt by the normal schools. With a library in every city and village, and of late in almost every district school, the need of such training is obvious. Thirty-two of the normals, therefore, are offering some definite courses of instruction in this new science. The courses usually consist of ten or twenty lessons each, though in a few instances they mean nothing more than a few informal talks by the librarian to entering students in familiarizing them with the use of the library of the school, and the rules governing it.

The aim of even the best of these courses is not to train librarians. It is, on the contrary, to enable students to use the normal school library effectively as a tool in the prosecution of their work, and then in turn pass this knowledge on to pupils in the public schools where the need differs only in degree, not in kind. Among the most helpful topics of instruction noted are the following: The use of card catalogs, value and use of reference books, such as the leading dictionaries, encyclopedias, atlases, gazetteers, *World's Almanac*, *Who's Who*, etc.

\*Excerpt from article, "A survey of entrance requirements and recent tendencies in the courses of study of the normal schools of the United States," by J. G. Engleman, Superintendent of schools, Decatur, Illinois, in *Pedagogical Seminary*, December, 1914.

Poole's Index and A. L. A. Catalogs are studied for their respective lines of help. Cataloging and accessioning of books, the use of pictures in school work, with a consideration of sources, selection, classification and indexing, making bibliographies, showing what is to be learned from title page, index, preface, table of contents—these and others of the sort comprise the topics that are presented to normal school students in more than twenty-five per cent of the schools of the country today.

The movement may well be thought of as a part of the still larger attempt to "teach pupils how to study," in elementary school, high school, normal school and university even. Books and monographs are being written, lectures given, and courses offered the country over, indicating a swing of the pendulum from a consideration of the recitation, to methods of study as the really vital concern of the teacher today.

### Instruction in Use of Libraries

The United States Bureau of Education has been making an investigation as to what is being done in regard to instruction in the management and use of libraries. The bulletin issued shows some interesting facts. Out of 446 institutions, 91 gave definite library courses. Of 166 normal schools replying, 93 reported instruction in library methods. Required courses in library instruction are maintained by Kansas state agricultural college, Ohio state university, Oregon agricultural college, Pennsylvania state college, University of North Dakota, Utah agricultural college and the University of Wisconsin. All of these institutions give full credit toward graduation for courses designed to train students in effective use of books and libraries.

Elective courses in library work are offered by many prominent institutions of higher education, including Cornell university, Universities of Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Michigan, New Mexico, West Virginia and Denver.

Wisconsin and Idaho are the only states requiring library instruction in the normal schools.

In addition to these, separate library schools are found in Simmons college, Boston; Western Reserve university, Cleveland; University of Wisconsin, Madison; University of Illinois, Urbana; Syracuse university and New York State.

### Recognition of Good Service

The thirtieth anniversary of Mr W. H. Brett's connection with the Cleveland public library was informally celebrated September 10, 1914. Wishing, however, to give more permanent and distinctive expression to their personal loyalty to their chief, and appreciation of his services to library work in general and the Cleveland public library in particular, the staff presented him with a Christmas book of remembrance, to the contents of which every one connected with the library, from the president of the board to the last-enrolled assistant, made same contribution.

The idea of the book was conceived by the second vice-librarian, Mr. Carl P. P. Vitz, and was designed by Miss Gertrude Stiles, head of the binding department, and executed under her supervision. Miss Stiles' artistic bindings are well known in arts-and-crafts circles, and the make-up of this beautiful book of her design is worthy of a special paragraph.

It is bound in tooled levant; the simple cover design is partly carried out in gold, including the significant title "Jubilantem Salutamus, 1884-1914." The paper is Japanese vellum. The illuminated vignettes which form the head and tail pieces of the volume are by Mrs Louise N. Dunn; the lettering of the title pages preceding each division of the contents is by Miss Berenice LaRue; and the printing, hardly to be distinguished from engraving, of the introduction and other general sections, is the work of Mr William F. Smythe.

There are many beautiful books in the world, but rarely one embodying so many original expressions of affection, appreciation, and evaluation of public service. The introduction is the work of Miss Linda A. Eastman, the vice librarian. The letters, bits of original verse, drawings, designs and quotations which make up the contents are the uniformly sincere and appropriate and frequently very clever contributions of the members of the library board and library staff. The following "ode" and sonnet show that while the contributions vary widely in form of expression, all are animated by the same spirit.

### A Short Ode Long Owed

A Great Librarian  
Bird on the branch (Carnegie Branch),  
Help me, you warbling elf,  
To sing in praise of him who gave  
To man the *Open Shelf*.

O pilot tried and true, you've sailed  
For thirty years the Main!  
Our good ship C. P. L. has found  
Your guidance safe and sane.

In heaven's impearled accession book  
The name of Poole appears;  
But may your name not there be writ  
For years, and years, and years.

Long may our good ship C. P. L.  
Sail on with banners set;  
And may those banners bear the name  
Of William Howard Brett.

—WM. F. SMYTHE.

### Sonnet to W. H. B.

This quiet home of books now daily doth reveal,  
By many an honor heaped upon his head,  
A gentle man; and, by his wisdom led,  
A host of lesser ones, afire with zeal;  
Inspired by his wisdom and his kind  
And helpful spirit; by his knowledge fed.  
When often they, with tired and weary tread,  
Out-tasked, forget to lift the plodding mind  
Above the sordid and the small details,  
Without which any mightier effort fails;  
And still are troubled by their little cares;  
Then he, more wise, doth choose the better way,  
"See that each act the right perspective bears  
To all the rest; and when 'tis playtime—play."

—LOUISE CLAFLIN.

There can hardly, I believe, be imagined a more desirable pleasure than that of praise unmixed with any possibility of flattery.—Sir Richard Steel.

## Public Libraries

MONTHLY - EXCEPT AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

|                            |           |               |
|----------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Library Bureau             | - - - - - | Publishers    |
| M. E. AHERN                | - - - - - | Editor        |
| Subscription               | - - - - - | \$2 a year    |
| Five copies to one library | - - - - - | \$8 a year    |
| Single number              | - - - - - | 25 cents      |
| Foreign subscriptions      | - - - - - | \$2.25 a year |

Entered as second-class matter May 17, 1896, at the Post office at Chicago, Ill., under act of March 3, 1897.

By the rules of the banks of Chicago an Exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or post-office money orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at regular rates.

**Needed library legislation**—As the season of state legislatures is on, one and another states are asking for legislative help for the betterment of library service in the respective localities.

Indiana is asking that the library laws be made uniform throughout the state in the matter of appointing library boards and levying taxes. Kansas is asking for a library organizer to better the library conditions throughout the state among the small libraries, a necessary accompaniment for its library extension and traveling libraries.

While there are many conditions in Illinois which call for improvement, the Library association and others are confining themselves to the most crying need at the present time, which is, relief from the conditions brought about by the decreased levy for library support which has come into action in the last few years.

The proposed bill for this is given elsewhere in PUBLIC LIBRARIES, and the librarians, library trustees and friends of library service in Illinois are earnestly

requested to communicate with their members of the State legislature, both senators and representatives, with a definite request that they support this bill when it comes before the General Assembly.

It is highly probable that the session of the General Assembly this year will be much like its predecessors in that there will be a multitude of problems calling for solution, and a very wide difference of opinion in regard to all of them, will not lead to harmonious and continuous action of the General Assembly. It will therefore be necessary for the friends of these special library measures to keep on the watch constantly, and over and over again to remind the members of the legislature from their districts that they are vitally interested in the library question, and are holding these members responsible for seeing that the bill passes which shall give relief to the crippled situation.

The very excellence of the service militates against the libraries' welfare when there are no means of supplying the increasing demands brought about by good work on the part of the library.

What is true of Illinois is true of the other states, and librarians are only performing what is their legitimate duty in seeing to it that an interest is created and continued in bringing about better library legislation for all communities.

It is not necessary to wait for an invitation from an officer of the various associations to take part in pushing library legislation. This is an occasion when a word in season will be very good indeed.

**Revision of the constitution.**—At the Washington conference of A. L. A., a resolution was introduced asking that a committee be appointed to carefully consider the desirability of revision of the

constitution in certain directions which were mentioned, and that the result of this consideration be made known at the Midwinter meeting of the Council, which should at that time, in the light of the reasons laid before it, decide on what ought be done in the matter.

The committee was appointed, but held no meetings, nor discussed the subject in any way until the Chicago meeting, when three members of the committee came together. By no stretch of the imagination could the deliberations be called careful consideration. Two very hurried and ineffectual meetings of the three members present in Chicago, at times when other duties seriously interfered, were held, and a divided report was made to the Council. Both reports, amid facetious remarks by a few, were voted as received, and the matters was about to be ended there, but a request to hear from the other members of the committee was made, and thereupon a discussion ensued.

The discussion in the Council would have been extremely amusing if it did not so clearly portray a regrettable attitude on the part of several of the very few who took part in it. There was much more consideration given to the fact of the American library institute's existence than there was as to whether the suggestions brought in by the two members of the committee, would make for the betterment of conditions in the American library association.

The discussion centered almost entirely on the proposition to eliminate the self-perpetuating power of the Council in electing 25 members independent of the association. It could hardly be called heartening to hear men who had been honored by the association with the office of president, express themselves as feeling that the association at large

was not able to choose the right sort of persons as representatives in the Council, which fear was entirely beside the point, since all other officers are nominated by a special committee appointed by the Executive Board. Rarely, if ever, is suggestion made to this committee, and the wisdom of its choice has rarely been questioned.

The discussion in the Council was quite as futile as the brief discussion allowed in the committee. The matter was finally passed over as "continued." The *Proceedings* will hardly contain the drift of the discussion, certainly not the spirit of it, most of which, by some of the audience at least, was hardly to be classed as fair. Resignation from the committee seemed to be the only door open from the unpleasant task to those who were interested in seeing a more liberal and democratic spirit prevail.

As the chairman of the committee announces himself as unalterably opposed to any "tinkering" with the constitution, it is hardly likely that anything will come of the matter, unless there is a definite effort made for it. But the association will probably live on until its mission is accomplished, whether its constitution is amended or not.

**Mr Daniels and his library school**—Mr Daniels of Riverside public library, Cal. has expressed a feeling of something akin to being overlooked in the reports on library training and in reply to the message that space was given as far as possible to the reports of those directly responsible for the schools, he has sent a very characteristic exposition (See p. 91) of what he is attempting in his library. It is interesting from several points and gives both information regarding the school and "food for thought" in regard to library training itself.

### Library Week in Chicago

The week between December 28 and January 6 was a notable one in Chicago, because of the discussions of the various kinds of library service, and discussion of particular library service by a variety of people.

The discussion in the League of library commissions was particularly practical this year, and as will be seen by reading the proceedings on another page, promises to lead to some important matters in library work. The discussion of various questions that have interested librarians generally, such as the relationship to booksellers and publishers, study club outlines and the free rural delivery for library books, brought out the situation relating to each of them very definitely.

The reports of the Council meetings showed the discussion of ethical questions to have various tendencies under different situations, and was of sufficiently general application to have merited a place on the general program of the association. It can hardly be that the Council, besides developing the policy of the association, can formulate ethics for the younger members without giving the latter an opportunity to be imbued with the spirit of the discussion, and a chance to measure the practice with the theory of those concerned.

The discussion with regard to the revision of the constitution brought out the fact that certain members took much satisfaction in the opportunity offered to apply to themselves the qualifying term of "Conservatives," leaving all those who did not agree with them in the particular matter under discussion, to be in the unenviable class of "Unconservative." However, some of the hearers probably would go further in their idea of the conservatism of some of the speakers than the latter would probably enjoy. There seems to be something in the temperament of institutional people that tends to make them so conservative that they come near to being inelastic.

The discussion of uniform methods of statistics brought out curious methods of

computation used in some libraries. Library statistics in library reports are worthy of thorough discussion, with the idea of making the same figures, applied in different localities, mean more nearly the same things than they do now.

The question of libraries and educational institutions was also fruitful of much serious consideration. The university and college librarians held separate conferences, as did also the normal school and other school librarians. The faculties of the library schools were exuberant in their expressions of the satisfaction, pleasure and benefit which they received from their discussion of their personal problems. If the students of the library schools are as well satisfied with the results which they obtain from the school as the faculties are with their deliberations, a very happy state of affairs should follow.

Following on the heels of the professional meeting of librarians in Chicago, the Chicago Woman's club, one of the largest and most effective organizations of women in the country, with a membership of over 1200, and a waiting list of 200, gave the afternoon of January 6 to the discussion of the responsibility of the public toward public library service.

The speaker for the day was Dr A. E. Bostwick, of St. Louis, who made a very clear and practical presentation of just what is the responsibility of the public in the matter of support, financial and communal as well as personal, to which every public library is entitled from the community which it serves.

The application of Dr Bostwick's address to library affairs in Chicago and Illinois was made by Miss M. E. Ahern, chairman of the Library committee of the Chicago Woman's club, particularly to the special needs of the Chicago public library. That Chicago should carry more effectively this community's responsibilities, was presented by Mr Legler, of the Chicago public library. It was a matter of regret that the other two public libraries, the Newberry and the John Crerar, were not represented.

A general discussion of the subject on



the floor by various members aroused very deep interest, which is already bearing fruit to the advantage of the library interests of the city and state.

The value of the *A. L. A. Booklist* to the community was presented by Miss Massee, the editor of the *Booklist*.

Much outside interest in the subject of library service has resulted from all these gatherings. Mayor Harrison has recommended that the city finance committee lend its support to the efforts which are to be made toward making the financial support of the Public library service more nearly sufficient for the demands on that institution.

All these things are worthy of mention, because they show that clear perception and a discussion of library service meets the approbation of people whose good opinion is worth while, and that when people in general come to feel that the public library does belong to the people as an integral part of their machinery for public education, they respond to the appeals that are made to them.

### A New Turn for Helpfulness

In the *Journal* of the Efficiency Society for November last Mr A. I. Schweitzer says:

I have occasion very often to go to the Public library at Cooper Union, and I find that a large percentage of the men there seated at the tables are what is generally known as "chair-warmers," who come there to keep out of the cold and read the first magazine that comes to their notice. The librarian there could be of great service to these men if he would ascertain whether they are employed; direct their reading in a channel of increasing their efficiency in their particular line; then calling their attention to the want ads in the rear pages of the magazine, or trade paper representing the industry the reader has been connected with. I notice the library has a room where they provide readers with pens, ink and stationery, and this room could be used for the purpose of answering the various ads for "Help wanted." The librarian could even go so far as to help the reader construct the proper application letter, or he could show them several books which contain sample copies of used or suggested employment-seeking letters and application forms.

### Andreas S. Steenberg

On December 16th, Professor Andreas S. Steenberg, of Copenhagen, Denmark, celebrated his sixtieth birthday amidst a unanimous appreciation from librarians and educators all over his country of his tireless work and wakeful enthusiasm in rousing the library spirit and organizing library activities in Denmark in accordance with Western ideals and practices. For more than twenty years Professor Steenberg's name has been identified with this movement—indeed, there was a time when he *was* the movement, spending freely his time and his private funds, looking forever forward, with none behind him! Slowly he felt his way, studying his subject, accumulating his arsenal of knowledge and argument, meanwhile filling with credit to himself and to others the post of a gymnasium teacher. No one accustomed to our modern American conveniences of popular library demands can imagine what it means to rouse the people of a small, although prosperous and highly cultured nation, to voice the demand of adequate library facilities and to create a growth of outward factors after the demand had been voiced. For many years Prof Steenberg figured as a man with a fad before the educated circles of his country, where nearly every cultured home possesses its private library, which is continued from one generation to the next. The great libraries were lights burning only for the metropolitan circles of learned students. The few and scattered local libraries were either stagnant or lacking in purposeful management and organization. Few and far between were those who met even with tolerance the teacher from Horsens who preached the modern gospel of books for the people and free public libraries as a part of a greater educational system. Yet this one man lectured, sent forth a stream of newspaper articles and wrote books setting forth his ideas, and offered freely his help to individuals and to communities, whenever conditions seemed to give promise of an awakening.

Today, twenty years after, the awakening is there. Prof Steenberg will be

the first to point out men and women, other than himself, who have created a system of public libraries and reading rooms for Copenhagen, and who have organized hundreds of indolent communities into library-supporting spheres of awakened interest. Prof Steenberg will assert that the Government has created an office known as the "State committee on public libraries," and that local authorities have been active in dotting the country with county library centers through which the organization of local reading rooms and public lending libraries is being further animated and perfected. Prof Steenberg will say that all this and more is a mere beginning, and that much more remains. In the meantime, a representative circle of librarians is expressing, in a special issue of *Bogsamlingsbladet* dated December 16th, 1914, a very appropriate vote of thanks to the Professor himself and to his family, remembering that pioneer work on their part which was necessary, but which they gave without reserve, and knowing that an easier life would have been possible for them if they had sought another course.

Professor Steenberg's many friends on this side of the Atlantic will unite with us when we hail the occasion duly recognized in Denmark with the following wishes expressed in the Professor's native tongue: *Tak for Deres store, uegennyttige, seloforglemmende, taalmodige Arbejde, og Gud give Dem en lang og nyttig Arbejdsdag: Et trofast Haandslag fra Venner i Amerika!*

### Misnamed Educational

An editorial in a recent number of the *American Educational Review*, calling itself a "leading educational magazine," on "Library work for college girls," is so inane, so colorless and at the same time so full of error, that as one librarian in writing of it expresses it, "It arouses one's wrath." Fancy an educational review, calling itself "the leading educational magazine," using the following:

#### Library Work for College Girls

Very few of the girls who expect to go away to school think of the work that will come

after the school or college days are over. And yet is it not foolish to devote three or four years, to say nothing of the cost in money, to acquiring an education which may be of little practical use afterward? Even the girl who is not facing the necessity of earning her own living may find it agreeable to continue her independence in case she should not marry.

Teaching has been the refuge of educated femininity for a hundred years, ever since the little red schoolhouse ceased to be the perquisite of a struggling divinity student. But the profession is becoming overcrowded, says the *Richmond Virginian*. More and more well educated girls are being turned out by the universities to look for places as teachers. Already the University of California is requiring a five-year course from those of its graduates who expect to teach in high schools. The supply of teachers is greater than the number of good positions.

Library work is coming more and more into favor as it becomes better known. *The salaries are not large—\$40 or \$50 a month in the cities and less in smaller towns—but the work itself is interesting. In the small city the girl librarian is, even more than the school teacher, the dispenser of culture. She is expected to take charge of the books, giving them out and taking them back, mending torn pages and collecting fines. Sometimes she has an assistant for evening work (attractive!), sometimes not, but at the longest her hours are but from 2 to 6 in the afternoon and from 7 to 9 in the evening. (! ! !)*

She finds herself speedily acquainted with every one in town through giving advice on what to read. Only a girl who loves books will have the wide acquaintance with them that such advice will necessitate, but she will find this one of the charming parts of her work. Then there is the children's story hour on Saturday morning through which the little folks to whom the printed pages are yet closed may derive enjoyment.

The length of the library course varies in different schools from one to four years. Most of the schools offer a one-year course to college graduates, notably the school at Albany, N. Y., which receives only college graduates. Pratt Institute in Brooklyn has a one-year general course, devoted principally to cataloging, book binding and the technical details of library work.

There is a library training school in connection with many of the larger universities. Another is offered in the *Congressional Library at Washington* (!) and one for children's librarians in the Carnegie library at Pittsburgh. The New York public library has also opened the doors of its beautiful building for a course lasting from one to two years, according to the qualifications of the students."

Such is the fame of our profession in an educational magazine F. B. R.

**\*A Bill for Maintenance of Public Libraries in Illinois**

*An Act to amend Sections 1 and 5 of an Act entitled, "An Act to authorize cities, incorporated towns and townships to establish and maintain free public libraries and reading rooms," approved and in force March 7, 1872, as amended by subsequent Acts.*

Be it enacted, by the people of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly; That Sections 1 and 5, of "An Act to authorize cities, incorporated towns and townships to establish and maintain free public libraries and reading rooms," approved and in force March 7, 1872, as amended by subsequent Acts be amended so as to read as follows:

**Section 1. City may establish—tax—fund, etc.**

That the city council of each incorporated city, whether organized under general law or special charter shall have power to establish and maintain a public library and reading room for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of such city, and may levy a tax of not to exceed *two mills* on the dollar annually on all the taxable property in the city; Provided, that in cities of over one hundred thousand inhabitants after the year 1896, such tax shall not exceed *one mill on the dollar* annually, such tax to be levied and collected in like manner with the general taxes of said city, and to be known as a library fund; Provided, that said annual library tax in cities of over fifteen hundred inhabitants shall not be included in the aggregate amount of taxes as limited, by section one (1) of article eight (8) of "An Act for the incorporation of cities and villages," approved April 10,

1872, and the amendatory Acts thereto, or by any provision of any special charter under which any city in this State is now organized.

**Section 5. Organization—powers of directors—funds.**

Said directors shall, immediately after appointment, meet and organize by the election of one of their number president, and by the election of such other officers as they may deem necessary. They shall make and adopt such by-laws, rules and regulations for their own guidance and for the government of the library and reading room as may be expedient, not inconsistent with this Act. They shall have the exclusive control of the expenditure of all moneys collected to the credit of the library fund, and of the construction of any library building, and of the supervision, care and custody of the grounds, rooms or buildings constructed, leased or set apart for that purpose, *and it shall be the duty of the directors of such public library, annually and at least three weeks prior to the passage of the annual tax levy ordinance by any such city, incorporated town or township, to make written recommendation to the officers of such city, incorporated town or township as to the financial requirements of any such public library and the rate of tax which, in the judgment of said directors, it will be necessary to levy for library purposes:* Provided, that all moneys received for such library shall be deposited in the treasury of said city to the credit of the library fund, and shall be kept separate and apart from other moneys of such city, and drawn upon by the proper officers of said library, upon the properly authenticated vouchers of the library board. Said board shall have power to purchase or lease grounds to occupy, lease or erect an appropriate building or buildings for the use of said library, shall have power to appoint a suitable librarian and necessary assistants, and fix their compensation, and shall also have power to remove such appointees, and shall, in general, carry out the spirit and intent of this Act, in establishing and maintaining a public library and reading room.

\*This bill will be introduced in both Houses of the Illinois legislature at the earliest possible moment after organization of the assembly and every one interested is urged personally to instruct the members from his district to vote for the measure. Acquaint yourself and your members with the provisions of the bill and urge its passage.—Legislative Committees of Illinois Library Associations.

**A. L. A. Committee Form for Library Statistics**

(Revised by Council and adopted Dec. 31, 1914)

19—

Annual report for year ended

Name of Library

City or town

State

Population served (latest statistics or estimate—state which)

Terms of use—Free for lending

Free for reference

Free to limited class, as students

Subscription

(Underscore words that apply)

Total number of agencies

Consisting of—Central library

Branches (How many occupy separate buildings?)

Stations

Other agencies (Subdivide: schools, clubs, etc.; also state number of school rooms and collections)

(See definition A)

Number of days open during year (Central library)

Hours open each week for lending (C. L.)

Hours open each week for reading (C. L.)

Number of volumes at beginning of year

Number of volumes added during year by purchase

Number of volumes added during year by gift or exchange

Number of volumes added during year by binding

Number of volumes lost or withdrawn during year

Total number at end of year

Number of pamphlets at beginning of year

Number of pamphlets added during year

Number of pamphlets withdrawn during year

Total number of pamphlets at end of year

(See definition B)

Other addition (maps, manuscripts, etc.—enumerate)

(See definition of "added" and "additions" C)

Number of volumes of fiction lent for home use

Total number of volumes lent for home use

Number of volumes sent to agencies

(See rules for counting circulation D)

Number of prints lent for home use

Number of music rolls lent for home use

Other circulation (sheet music, clippings, etc.—enumerate)

Number of borrowers registered during year

Total number of registered borrowers

Registration period, years

Number of newspapers and periodicals currently received

(Give both number of titles and copies—not pieces)

Number of persons using library for reading and study

(Total figures of attendance in reading rooms, if kept)

**RECEIPTS FROM**

Unexpended balance

Local taxation

State grants

Endowment funds

Membership fees

Fines and sale of publications

Duplicate pay collection

Gifts

Other sources

(If extraordinary, enumerate and state objects)

Total

\$

**PAYMENTS FOR**

Maintenance

Books

Periodicals

Binding

Salaries, library service

Salaries, janitor service

Rent

Heat

Light

Other maintenance

Total maintenance

\$

Extraordinary

Sites

New buildings

Additions to buildings

Other unusual expenses

Grand total

\$

| Adult | Juvenile | Total |
|-------|----------|-------|
|       |          |       |

| Adult | Juvenile | Total |
|-------|----------|-------|
|       |          |       |

| Adult | Juvenile | Total |
|-------|----------|-------|
|       |          |       |

### Notes, Definitions, Rules

#### A. Branches, stations and other agencies

(Definitions based on Miss Eastman's "Branch libraries and other distributing agencies." A. L. A. Manual of Library Economy, ch. 15.)

A *branch* is an auxiliary library, complete in itself, having its own permanent collection of books, either occupying a separate building or housed in one or more rooms in a school, park or field house, social settlement, parish house, rented store, etc., and administered as an integral part of the library system, i. e., by a paid staff. To rank as a branch its hours of opening should approximate those of the central library.

*Stations* include deposit and delivery stations. Deposit stations consist of small collection of books (from 200 to several hundred volumes) sent for an indefinite term to a store, school, factory, club, etc. The collections are frequently changed; the station has some permanency. A station may be in charge of an assistant sent from the central library or neighboring branch, or a trained librarian employed at the expense of a cooperating institution or society, an office employe of a factory, or a volunteer worker. Delivery stations have no books on deposit, but fill orders from a central stock.

*Other agencies.* These embrace for the most part agencies to which traveling libraries are sent; the largest number of such traveling libraries (20 to 50 or more books) go to school rooms of grade schools. They include also fire engine houses, police stations, factories, clubs, missions, settlements, home libraries, etc. For the purpose of this report and to avoid inflated figures, each separate box of books should not be counted but only the different institutions to which books are sent. In the case of collections sent to schools, each building should be counted but once, tho the report should also give the number of separate collections and the number of different rooms served.

#### B. Volumes and pamphlets

(Based on Biscoe, "Pamphlets," World's Lib. Cong. Papers, 826.)

A *pamphlet* is a printed work consisting of one or more sheets of paper fastened together but not bound. Unbound serials and sequents which as issued are intended to form component parts of a larger volume are not to be considered as pamphlets.

A *volume* is any printed work bound in stiff covers so as to stand on a shelf; also unbound books of over 100 pages.

#### C. Added and additions

Volumes, pamphlets, etc., are to be considered as "added" to a library only when they are available for use; they are not to be considered as "additions" if they are simply in the possession of the library, but not yet in use.

#### D. Rules for counting circulation

(Where the word "book" is used, the rules should be understood as applying also to pamphlets and periodicals.)

1. The circulation shall be accurately recorded each day, counting one for each lending for home use of a bound volume, pamphlet or periodical. Supplemental figures recording (each group separately) the circulation of prints, music rolls, or other material are also desirable.

2. Renewal of a book under library rules at or near the end of regular terms of issue shall also be counted, but no increase shall be made because books are read by others or for any other reason.

3. The act of sending books from the library to an agency of any kind shall not be regarded as an issue to be counted in the circulation, but the number of books sent to such agency shall be reported separately.

4. In all cases books issued from an agency for home use shall be counted only according to the reported circulation, disregarding the act of sending them from the library to the agency and disregarding their use at the agency. In no case shall there be any estimation of circulation.

5. If it is found necessary to depart from these rules in any way, such departure shall be plainly stated in a footnote to the published report.



**A. L. A. Meetings in Chicago**

The meeting of the Executive Board was held December 31. C. B. Roden, treasurer, presented his report.

**Report of treasurer January to December, 1914****Receipts**

|                                  |             |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Balance on hand, January 1, 1914 | \$3,392.65  |
| Membership dues, etc.            | 7,573.35    |
| George B. Utley, refund.         | 200.00      |
| Interest endowment fund          | 570.42      |
| Interest Carnegie fund..         | 4,500.00    |
| A. L. A. Publishing Board        | 2,500.00    |
| Interest on bank balance         | 66.40       |
| Total                            | \$18,802.82 |

**Expenditures**

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Bulletin  | \$1,443.98  |
| Conference  | 650.00      |
| Committees  | 552.81      |
| Headquarters:   |             |
| Salaries  | 5,100.00    |
| Additional service                                    | 600.00      |
| Supplies  | 536.06      |
| Miscellaneous   | 660.60      |
| Postage   | 368.21      |
| Contingencies   | 250.00      |
| Travel  | 273.36      |
| Trustees endowment fund                               | 75.00       |
| A. L. A. Publishing Board (Interest on Carnegie fund) | 4,500.00    |
| Total   | \$15,010.02 |
| Balance   | \$ 3,792.80 |
| G. B. Utley, Balance                                  | 250.00      |
| Due from Publishing Board on 1914 account             | 500.00      |
| Total balance   | \$4,542.80  |
| James L. Whitney fund..                               | \$174.55    |

The finance committee reported that the difference between the estimate for 1914 and the actual income was: estimated income, \$22,910.00; actual income, \$26,282.41.

The following budget was adopted for the year 1915: estimated income, \$15,250.00, to be expended as follows:

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| Bulletin         | \$ 1,400 |
| Conference       | 800      |
| Committees       | 775      |
| Salaries         | 5,260    |
| Publishing Board | 4,300    |
| Contingencies    | 365      |
| Travel           | 350      |

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Service, supplies, postage, transportation, telephone, etc. | 2,000    |
|   | \$15,250 |

An appropriation of \$500 was made toward the expenses of the library exhibit at the Panama-Pacific international exposition.

The nominating committee was appointed as follows: Henry E. Legler, Caroline M. Hewins, Mary Frances Isom, Charles F. D. Belden and Malcolm G. Wyer.

W. H. Kerr, of Emporia, Kansas, was appointed a publicity committee of one with power to secure such additional assistance as needed.

Miss Plummer referred to the present unsatisfactory method of appointing the various standing committees by the incoming Executive Board at a hurried meeting at the close of the annual conference, and after due consideration, it was voted that the secretary, until otherwise ordered, should request, twenty-four hours before election, the nominees for president, vice-president and one member of the Executive Board, chosen by the nominee for president, to prepare, in consultation with the secretary, nominations for the committees to be appointed by the new Executive Board, which may be available for the use of the Board if it desires to call for them.

In discussion it was decided that the committees on cataloging and code for classifiers, should remain as special committees continued from year to year, as long as needed.

It was also voted that a small special committee to consider work for defectives and delinquents be appointed by the Board and continued annually.

Linda A. Eastman was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mrs E. H. Anderson from the committee on compilation of lists on home economics.

**A. L. A. Publishing Board**

The Publishing Board held a meeting Friday, January 1, with all members present. The report of the treasurer, C. B. Roden, was presented and accepted.

## Report of treasurer, January 1, 1914

## Receipts

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Balance on hand, January, 1914 .....          | \$ 1,143.71 |
| Sales of publications.....                    | 13,572.24   |
| Interest from Carnegie fund .....             | 4,500.00    |
| Interest from January to December, 1915 ..... | 1.81        |
| Total .....                                   | \$19,217.76 |

## Expenditures

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| By check .....                              | \$18,117.55 |
| Balance .....                               | \$1,350.21  |
| The budget for 1915 was adopted as follows: |             |

## Estimated income

|                                      |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Balance .....                        | \$ 1,349.70 |
| Carnegie fund .....                  | 4,300.00    |
| Sales of publications.....           | 13,000.00   |
| Accounts receivable .....            | 1,567.34    |
| Sale of review copies of books ..... | 900.00      |
| Total .....                          | \$21,117.04 |

## Estimated expenditures

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Salaries .....                                 | \$ 4,600.00 |
| Printing <i>Booklist</i> and index .....       | 1,800.00    |
| Periodical cards .....                         | 1,500.00    |
| Advertising .....                              | 300.00      |
| A. L. A. appropriation....                     | 2,500.00    |
| A. L. A. appropriation (Balance for 1914)..... | 500.00      |
| Express and postage.....                       | 700.00      |
| Supplies and incidentals..                     | 1,300.00    |
| Stationery and printing....                    | 200.00      |
| Travel .....                                   | 500.00      |
| Total .....                                    | \$13,900.00 |

J. I. Wyer, chairman of the committee on the A. L. A. Manual of library economy, reported on the progress of the manual. Of this a summary shows that there have been printed 19 chapters; there are ready for the press five; well advanced, two; assigned, four; unsigned, two.

Miss Massee presented an encouraging informal report of the *A. L. A. Booklist*. Coöperation has steadily increased during the year. Subscriptions also have increased, so that 5,200 copies are now printed instead of 4,600 a year ago.

A vote was passed to print in pamphlet form Florence R. Curtis' article on "Collection of social survey material by libraries."

A committee was appointed to prepare and print a tentative list of approved periodicals for libraries.

The subject of an index to music was discussed and the secretary was instructed to ascertain the needs and desires of the libraries in this direction.

Mr Andrews reported progress on the Union list of periodicals.

A committee was appointed to investigate ways and means and cost of complete revision of the A. L. A. catalog and report to the Board.

The secretary was requested to prepare in consultation with other librarians an outline of what should be included in an *A. L. A. Yearbook*, probable cost, etc.

It was voted that a revised edition of "Graded lists of stories for reading aloud," prepared by H. E. Hassler, assisted by Carrie E. Scott, should be printed by the Board.

A tract on the subject of "County libraries, their organization, administration, advantages, etc.," will be prepared by invitation of the Board by Mary Frances Isom, of Portland, Oregon.

A thoroughly revised edition of Hitchler's "Cataloging for small libraries," will soon be issued. It will be about four and a half times the size of the previous one.

It is expected that the "List of subject headings for juvenile catalogs," will be ready for printing in February.

A list of Bohemian books prepared by Mrs E. E. Ledbetter, of the Broadway branch of the Cleveland public library will be printed shortly.

## The meeting of the A. L. A. council

The Council of the A. L. A. held its Midwinter sessions at the Hotel La Salle in Chicago, December 30-31.

There were 43 regular members present and six representing state associations.

President Wellman announced that the first item of business was the application of the school librarians for admission as a section. A special committee, consisting of Mr Carlton, Miss

Rose and Mr Wyer, to whom the application was referred, reported as follows:

The committee finds reason to believe that there is likely to be in the near future a rapid and extensive development of activity in this field of library work, and that the existence of a section of the A. L. A. especially devoted to its study and discussion would be of material aid to those professionally concerned with it. The committee therefore unanimously recommends that the application be granted and that the official title of the proposed section shall be "School libraries section."

The report was adopted with the recommendation that the application be granted.

The second discussion was on "Some points in library ethics."

The point discussed at first was "The librarian's relationship to his trustees," presented by J. T. Jennings, of the Seattle public library.

Mr Jennings said that to limit the scope of his subject, he would confine his remarks to the relation between trustees and librarians in the large public libraries, but that the ideas he should advance might apply equally well to other kinds of librarians, though he thought that in the smaller public libraries, the librarian is likely to be a person without training and with little experience, consequently the trustee will need to give more personal attention to all library matters. Even in public libraries of moderate size, trustees will often need to take into their own hands the management of the business side of the library.

The attitude of the librarian towards his trustee may depend somewhat on the individuality. Different trustees have different attitudes and ideas. The librarian must approach them with tactful consideration of their individual viewpoints. The two kinds of trustees that are trying are: the incompetent or uninterested trustee, and the over-interested or meddling trustee. The one who considers the librarian a servant and not a co-worker, is a trial. He concerns himself with the details of the librarian's work, and attempts to deal directly with the subordinates in the library. The

other trustees should protect the librarian's authority by taking prompt measures to stop it.

It is better for the trustees to replace its librarian by a new appointee, than to undertake themselves to do the work of an incompetent librarian. The ideal board of trustees will be composed of men from various walks of life who have made a success of their own business, whose standing in the community enables them to secure the funds necessary for the support of the library. The trustees should take the layman's viewpoint, and be interested in results as distinguished from methods.

The librarian should not play one position against the other, for his own pecuniary advantage. The librarian should not be chosen for any definite term, but should hold office during the pleasure of the board.

Mr Jennings does not believe in placing his resignation in the hands of the board to be accepted at their pleasure.

Perfect harmony should exist between the board and the librarian, both working for the interest of the library, and trusting each other. Difficulties between trustees or between trustees and librarian should be confined to board meetings. When relations become too strained, there should be either a change in the board, or a new librarian.

In choosing building sites, the board should decide but should consult the librarian. In choosing plans for the building, the librarian's ideas regarding interior arrangements should be given the greatest weight.

The choice of book selection can best be handled by the librarian and his staff. In the securing of funds, the trustee should take the leading part.

Library service should be placed on the merit system, to the best interests of the library and the management of the staff. The librarian should be free to choose his own assistants, under such a scheme, and his board should stand by him both in appointments and

dismissals. If the librarian makes frequent blunders, the board should replace him.

W. N. C. Carleton, librarian of the Newberry library, Chicago, spoke on "Recommendations." He advocated, in sending a recommendation, a composite impression of one's knowledge of and experience with, the person. This would leave out all the little difficulties and flaws which inevitably occur in all human relations. The greatest difficulty would be that the least statement which seems to throw any doubt on the fact that the person about whom the letter is written is not an angel from heaven, at once sets up an inhibition in the mind of the reader, who immediately asks what is being kept back. Another difficulty arises in the fact that in a given library the person has not been all that the chief had hoped for. This leaves always the possibility that in another library, in another position, none of the things which had been unfortunate would occur. It is a great responsibility to say anything that may be a permanent handicap to one of our fellow librarians.

Miss Rathbone thought that librarians should have a letter of recommendation that stated disadvantages as well as advantages, the strong as well as weak points. Unless there is that attitude in the profession, a willingness to judge the matter in the same spirit of fairness, library school directors are under a terrible handicap in the matter of recommendations.

Dr Andrews, of the John Crerar library, said that when he said a person was intelligent and industrious, and did not say that they were tactful nor accurate, he did not want it to be understood that the person was tactful and accurate.

Mr Dudgeon thought a frank letter, not over-emphasizing any weakness mentioned, is the only kind of recommendation that should go forth, but that the person writing, should know as much as possible about the demands of the position and the person he is recommending.

Dr Bostwick thought a letter of general recommendation could be given where a person had been in the employ, and had given satisfaction in such employment. "Satisfaction" does not always have to rely on the person being perfect.

Mr Legler cited from his own experience a letter of recommendation in which every word was absolutely true as to the ability of the person along certain lines, but a serious omission was where the writer failed to mention the fact that the person had one grave defect which nullified all good qualities.

Miss Plummer presented "Obligations to fellow librarians." Miss Plummer has consented to write out her presentation for a future number of PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The discussion of "Lending one's name," was opened by Dr Chalmers Hadley, librarian of the Denver public library. He thought that librarians should be chary in lending names, either in support or in criticism of books. This is true in a series, the first volumes of which may be excellent, while the series may deteriorate.

The librarian is justified in recommending a book or a library device to the extent of informing the publisher or manufacturer that he can refer inquiries to the librarian.

Mr W. O. Carson discussed the phase, "Accepting favors." His discussion covered the point that it is impossible for a librarian to refuse all favors, and that he should at all times refuse to accept any valuable considerations that might be considered as inducements or rewards. Any gift which the giver or receiver would object to the library board knowing of and the whole circumstances connected with it, is improper.

Dr Bowerman discussed the question of a clearing house for labor-saving devices, and after much discussion, it was taken as the sense of the Council that it would be to the advantage of the association to have information in

regard to such labor-saving devices brought together from time to time.

The question of the periodical subscription trust was brought up by Mr Ranck of Grand Rapids, and from the testimony of several, it would seem that an effort was being made on the part of certain publishers and subscription agencies, to revive the effort to restrain competition. The matter will be taken up at a later meeting of the Council.

At the second session, "Social surveys by libraries" was discussed by Dr W. D. Johnston, of St. Paul. After setting forth the importance, and something of the history of social investigations, Dr Johnston told of the Minneapolis public library survey, and pointed out by means of a map the investigation of conditions of literacy which had been recently made, with the assistance of the school authorities, in St. Paul.

The report of the committee to consider the advisability of revising the constitution of the association was presented by N. D. C. Hodges.

For his own attitude in the matter, Dr Hodges said:

I cannot bring myself to join the report signed by two members of the committee. The constitution as revised by an able committee was adopted only five years ago. So far as I have been able to ascertain, it furnishes a sufficient working basis for the association, and, believing that any association's energies can better be expended on more vital problems than constitution tinkering, I present as a minority report the recommendation that no amendments be considered at this time. It is with regret that I find myself at variance with those who have earnestly and persistently urged such amendments.

He presented for the other two members of the committee the following:

Of the three members present of the committee appointed to consider the advisability of amendment of the constitution, two members are of the opinion that it is desirable to make certain changes, and beg leave to present the following suggestions:

1) That Section 14 of the constitution be amended by striking out in lines 7 and 8 the words, "and 25 elected by the Council itself," and in line 16, "and the Council respectively."

2) That Section 3 of the by-laws be stricken out.

3) That Section 3a be made Section 3, and amended by striking out in lines 17 and 18 the words, "or to members of other," inserting the word "and" in lieu thereof.

In addition to the suggestions here made, these two members are of the opinion that there are other points, fairly open to question, and that it is desirable for the Council to discuss them, preparatory to making suggestions in relation to them.

1) Annual vs. biennial meetings of the A. L. A.

2) As to what shall be done about the precedent which has grown up into almost a law that the first vice-president elected one year shall become the nominee for president the next year. It is possible to conceive of one in the association not a member of the Executive Board, as the one person that at a particular time ought to be president. The same position might also obtain in regard to one on the Executive Board.

3) The method of appointing members of the Publishing Board.

ALICE S. TYLER.

MARY EILEEN AHERN.

On request, Mr Hodges also reported that of the other two members of the committee, "Mr Gould of Montreal is one of the conservative members and is opposed to amendment of the constitution. The other member, Mr Jones, of Salem, did approve of changes in Section 14, affecting the make-up of the Council."

On request, Miss Ahern explained what was intended by the suggestions made by the two members who reported in favor of a committee for revision.

She said: 1) The Council was too large for a deliberative body. The idea of self-perpetuation back of "25 members elected by the Council itself," was not in harmony with the democratic organization.

2) The by-law relating to those who are permitted to enjoy the privileges and advantages of the A. L. A. conference is ambiguous. The suggestion was offered that the section should read so that all members of affiliated societies should stand on the same footing.

3) There were many who thought the rank and file of the librarians would



get more results by having biennial meetings of the A. L. A., if the state associations would alternate their meetings with those of the A. L. A.

4) Miss Ahern pointed out that one in the association, not a member of the Executive Board, might be the one person who, at that particular time, ought to be president of the association, and yet the precedent exists by which the first vice-president elected one year becomes the nominee for president the next year. With the enlarged Executive Board with a continuing membership, this precedent, which grew up under former conditions, ought to be done away with. Such action would not preclude the selection of the first vice-president if it seemed advisable.

5) Inasmuch as the Publishing Board was organized very largely to prepare material for small libraries and commission workers, it would seem that a member definitely representing these interests ought always to have a place on the Publishing Board.

The discussion which followed dwelt very largely with personalities. The following expressed themselves as favorable to a revision covering at least some of these points: Mr Legler, Miss Tyler, Dr Richardson, Mr Dudgeon, Miss Rathbone. Those who were of Mr Hodges' view, were Dr Andrews, Dr Hill, Mr Carr, Mr Ranck, and Dr Bostwick. No decision was reached. The majority and minority report was voted "accepted," with the suggestion that they be printed in the *Bulletin*, and the discussion continued at the next meeting.

Miss Tyler said that under the conditions in which the committee was expected to work, that it seemed futile to attempt anything further and that she would ask to be excused from continuance on the committee.

"Current newspapers in libraries," was presented by Dr Frank P. Hill, of Brooklyn. Newspaper rooms began, he said, when newspapers were an expensive luxury in the family, and it seemed the duty of the library to supply them. Dr Hill thought the change

in the price and availability of newspapers, did away with the necessity for a special room. In the largest reading room in Brooklyn, they have papers from all over the country, and a selection from all over the world. These, however, have to be asked for at the desk, and as a consequence, the reading rooms are clear of the class of people who come there to loaf. There has been little complaint or criticism on the action in doing away with the general display of newspapers in the room. The atmosphere has improved, and more serious reading increases.

Mr Hodges said that they did away with chairs in the newspaper room about 10 years ago, and relieved the atmosphere in that way.

Dr Bostwick said that he did not agree with the difference in value that seemed to be placed on the daily papers, and on the monthly papers. If he had to drop some papers, it would not be the *Springfield Republican*, the *Boston Transcript*, or the *New York Evening Post*; it would be the *American*, or the *Cosmopolitan*, or *Munsey's*. It seemed to him there was reason for keeping newspapers in considerable numbers. He approved of the plan of dispensing with chairs.

Dr Bowerman presented the report of the committee on library administration on "Uniform library statistics." The report was very generally and interestingly discussed. (See page 64.)

M. S. Dudgeon reported on his investigation of insurance rates for libraries. He said there was a surprising difference in rates in different cities. It varies from 25c per 100 for five years term, to \$4.92 per 100 for three years term.

The committee recommends that every library investigate very carefully the rates, having in mind that libraries are an especially attractive risk for insurance companies, and that concessions may sometimes be obtained on account of the nature of the risk and the public character of the institution.

Mr Dudgeon advised the library au-

thorities to be a little wary about the co-insurance provision in many policies, as if a fire occurs, the results may be disappointing. The language of the policy, as to exclusion of certain articles, ought to be carefully scrutinized. Card catalogs and other property ought to be insured at a value which shall be the cost of replacement. Library records should show the property which has been acquired, as part of the property may be out of the building at a time of fire, but no more trouble will come from this than might be the case in a mercantile establishment. The records showing the property of the library ought to be preserved in a vault if possible.

Fire prevention seems to call for inspection of the building; prohibition of accumulation of material such as would make fires possible; installation of fire extinguishers, and the instruction of the staff as to how to proceed under fire danger.

Wisconsin is the only state which permits the insurance of public libraries and contents in the State insurance fund.

Mr Dudgeon warned against the common practice in some cities where the library is not insured, because the city carries its own insurance. He said that when the city carries its own insurance, without accumulating a special fund, it amounts to no insurance at all.

The committee was not ready yet to advise mutual insurance for libraries.

The report was accepted and the committee continued.

After resolutions expressing appreciation of the hospitality of Chicago, the council adjourned.

#### College Librarians' Conference

The conference of college librarians of the Middle West was held at Hotel LaSalle, Chicago, December 31 and January 1. There was also a joint session of college and university librarians on January 1.

The Thursday session, with Miss Butlin of Beloit college presiding, opened with a discussion led by Miss Bechtel

of Wooster college on "How to maintain quiet in the library." She advised the use of requests rather than direct commands in securing the desired end. Prof Root described the Oberlin system which is proving very effective. A paper on the same subject was contributed by Miss Hargrave of Ripon college.

Prof Root gave an address on "Economy," suggesting the use of the mimeograph or multigraph for analytic cards, the sale and exchange of duplicates on a systematic basis, the use of a file of manila slips as an indicator for books not on the shelves and various other methods of economy in library practice.

Prof Brandenburg of Miami university followed with a discussion based on the recent bulletin of the Bureau of Education on "Library instruction in colleges." He favored instruction given by the librarian and library staff, since if given by any one of the college departments one class of books in the library is emphasized and the instruction is not general.

Miss Reynolds of Milwaukee Downer told of "Ways of arousing interest in the library and in cultural reading." A most excellent paper on the same subject by Miss Gladstone of Carleton college was read.

"University studies" was the topic treated by Miss Bean of Carroll college and "Open hours" by Miss Ball of Albion college.

The program for the joint session on Friday morning was as follows:

"Departmental libraries in University of Chicago." J. C. M. Hanson.

"Coöperation among the libraries of a state." Prof Root.

"Leipzig exhibition." T. W. Koch.

"Book buying in Europe." J. T. Gerould.

On Friday afternoon, at the second session of college librarians, presided over by Mr Brandenburg, the topic of "Departmental libraries" was treated by Mr Lindley of Earlham college. He saw nothing in favor of departmental libraries in the small college, since no one is responsible for the books in these libraries, and thus they develop bad

habits. He thought the best plan was for the professors to draw the books on individual cards and for each department to replace all books lost.

On the topic "Loan and general use of periodical literature," Miss Nethercut of Rockford college showed that there is a great variety of practice in the various colleges, some colleges even finding it possible to loan all current numbers.

Miss Duncan, Iowa state teachers' college, spoke on the subject "Methods of securing symmetry and growth of different departments of a college library."

In discussing the topic "Library fees," Mr Skarstedt of Augustana brought reports from various institutions. It was found that only two of the colleges represented at the conference had a system of fees.

"Proposed separation of college and reference sections of A. L. A.," was strongly favored by Mr Axtell of Macalester college.

The conference closed with a business meeting at which Prof Brandenburg of Miami university and Miss Butlin of Beloit college were named as members of the committee for the next conference.

Strickland Gibson in his book "Old Oxford libraries" describes the library built and founded by Sir Leoline Jenkins about 1676 as a "mausoleum for books long since dead."

But even this is not the deadest of libraries, for Mr Gibson describes a less frequented one within the precincts of Christ Church:

Dr Richard Allestree, regius professor of divinity, in 1680 conveyed the whole of his books to the university for the trust of successive regius professors of divinity. The university, by the deed of trust, was to exercise the right of visitation, but no money was left for the maintenance of the library, nor has provision ever been made for it. In a secluded cloister, within a small chamber and a long narrow room paved with red tiles, the books, unvisited, pass their days in dusty desolation and unbroken peace. Only the professor has the right of entry, a right probably exercised but seldom by one whose duty it is to interpret the living Word, and who may well hesitate to explore the wastes of long exhausted theological controversies.

### Accommodations at A. L. A., 1915

The thirty-seventh conference of the American library association will be held at Berkeley, Cal., June 3-9, 1915.

Berkeley is 50 minutes distant by ferry and trolleys running direct from the Berkeley side of the bay to the Exposition grounds.

The local committee is hard at work on arrangements for the comfort of those attending the meeting. Mr Harold L. Leupp, of the local committee, reports on arrangements as follows:

The meetings of the association will be held in various halls of the University of California within a few minutes of the Hotel Shattuck, where headquarters will be established.

It is possible to secure only 75 rooms at the hotel, and in assigning these preference will be given to officers of the association and to those whose relation to the program may require their presence at headquarters.

The majority of those attending the conference will be entertained in the number of fraternity and sorority houses adjoining the campus, and in close proximity to the car lines and ferries. Each house will accommodate from 20 to 40 persons. Meals will be served or not, as the individual desires.

Full information regarding the exposition, restaurants, points of interest in San Francisco and excursions, will be available at headquarters.

At present all meetings are scheduled for the forenoon, giving an opportunity to take in the sights in the afternoon.

The local committee is doing everything in its power to make the trip to the West Coast both profitable and pleasant. It must be borne in mind that in a college town the same conditions do not attain as in a large center or at a summer resort. The distances and the rates during the exposition will probably be high in San Francisco and Oakland, so that it was thought wisest to accept the offer of the fraternity and sorority houses, which have been carefully inspected by the local committee and are thoroughly desirable. They do not offer

private baths, elevators, the luxuries of hotel service, but they do offer sleeping accommodations, pleasant living rooms, quiet, easy access to the various meeting places and car lines, and rates are reasonable.

It will be necessary in most cases to assign two delegates to a room. Some extra large rooms will care for three. Those who are willing to pay the additional charge for individual quarters will probably be accommodated, but the possibilities are limited, especially in the hotel.

The schedule of rates is as follows:

#### Hotel Shattuck

Two persons in one room, with bath, \$2.50 each a day.

Two persons in one room, without bath, \$2.00 each a day.

If room is engaged with meals, each person will be charged \$1.50 a day additional.

#### Organization houses

Two persons in one room with breakfast, \$2.00.

Two persons in one room with breakfast and dinner, \$2.50.

One person, room with breakfast, \$2.50.

One person, room with breakfast and dinner, \$3.00.

Arrangements for service in the organization houses requires an additional fee of one dollar a person.

To secure choice of accommodations, application should be entered as soon as possible. This is absolutely necessary for those desiring individual rooms in the hotel or organization house assignments.

The committee must reserve the right to make other assignments than those requested when it proves necessary, unless the applicant specifically states that no other accommodations will be accepted. In such cases, while the committee will do its best, the responsibility rests with the applicant if no rooms can be secured.

Application should be made to Harold L. Leupp, University of California, and should cover the following points:

Preference, if any, between hotel and organization houses.

Dates when accommodations are desired.

Choice of room mate or mates.

Sign first name in full.

In order to afford equal opportunity to all, applications received before March 1 will be considered as received on that date.

Please remember the hotel committee is financially responsible for filling a certain number of rooms for a certain time, and that, therefore, terms of application once entered, or arrangements agreed to, should be allowed to stand if possible. When changes are necessary, the committee will do its best to accommodate but when adjustment cannot be made, applicants will be expected to abide by original terms.

#### Travel arrangements

The Travel committee of the A. L. A. are busily at work trying to figure out an itinerary for the A. L. A. meeting at Berkeley, June 3-9, that will be the best route "for the greatest number at the least cost."

The general rate for the round trip from New York to San Francisco next summer is \$98.80; from Chicago, \$62.50, allowing for continuation of the trip to San Diego and return by any of the Southern or Transcontinental lines. To return by any of the Northwest lines will mean an additional \$17.50 cost. The Pullman, lower berth, from Chicago to California, is \$13 one way; New York, \$18. These are the general rates open to anybody.

The Travel committee plans to provide a personally conducted, first class trip to Oakland, California, with stops at Denver, Colorado Springs, Glenwood Springs and a daylight trip through the mountains of Colorado.

Two personally conducted trips will be arranged for the return journey. One, through the Northwest, with short stops at Portland, Seattle, Victoria and Vancouver, through the Canadian Rockies, and with short stops at Glacier national park, Lake Louise and Banff.

Another will be via the Southwest, following the shore of California with stops at Del Monte, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, and San Diego, where the Panama-California exposition will be held, returning east either through Colorado or, if

the majority prefers, via the Santa Fe, with stops at the Grand Cañon of Arizona.

On either of these personally conducted trips will be included all expenses of travel, including Pullman, hotel meals and drives. The cost of the trip, exclusive of the expense of the Convention week at Berkeley, will be approximately: trip one, returning through the Northwest, \$265 from New York, taking 30 days, or \$210 from Chicago; trip two, returning via Southern California, about \$245 from New York, taking 27 days, or about \$195 from Chicago. These are outside figures which may be bettered when the definite itinerary is announced. Special arrangements will be made for those who wish to go out with the special train party and return individually.

The rate will be about \$185 from New York and \$140 from Chicago, which sums include everything going out, and a railroad ticket only coming back by any of the northern routes. The rate by the southern route will be about \$168 from New York and about \$125 from Chicago.

A third choice will be to go out with the special party, including everything going out, and to return by a special steamer, "Finland," through the Panama Canal to New York. The minimum first class fare, two in one room, is \$125 from San Francisco or San Diego to New York. So few accommodations at this rate are available, however, that the expense should be estimated at \$170 for an inside room with two other persons and \$185 for an outside room with two other persons. The full expense of the trip out with the party, and the return to New York from San Francisco by the steamer "Finland," not including the week at Berkeley, but including all other expenses, would be from \$275 up, according to the price paid for accommodations on the steamer.

The Travel committee will gladly answer all questions regarding the trip and make preliminary registration of those expecting to take it. Early registration will materially help in securing satisfac-

tory accommodations under the rather crowded exposition conditions.

The Travel committee is the same as for several years past; F. W. Faxon, 83 Francis St., Fenway, Boston; Charles H. Brown, 26 Brevoort Place, Brooklyn; John F. Phelan, Public Library, Chicago.

#### **League of Library Commissions Meeting of the Eastern section**

The mid-winter meeting of the Eastern section of the League of Library commissions was held in the New York public library, December 28-29, 1914. Miss Caroline Webster, first vice-president of the League, presided, Miss M. A. Newberry of the New York public library acting as secretary.

Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont were represented.

The purposes of the meeting were to discuss the problems of the eastern commissions, the questions to be considered at the meeting of the Western section, and the reports made at the A. L. A. conference in Washington.

#### **Study club outlines**

At the opening session, the first report presented was that of the committee on study club outlines. H. W. Wilson distributed a tentative outline on South America in proof sheets for criticism. He spoke of the difficulty in producing an outline satisfactory to any one, even when prepared on supposedly approved principles. Mr. Wilson asked if the commissions preferred an outline based on one book, or on a number of books. The discussion pointed out the necessarily great duplication which would arise in state libraries, library commissions and other libraries, if the outline were based on one book. Arguments for and against this plan were offered.

The subject of the topical vs. question method in the preparation of the outline was also discussed. It seemed to the majority that a combination of the two methods was best; questions based on a single textbook, with suggested topics for study from other



books. It was thought wise also to append a short list of about 10 books for study and reference, and a longer list of 25 or 50 titles for the large clubs or those having greater library resources. Mr Wilson made the proposal of printing excerpts with the outlines at an increase in price or in separate form. He concluded by saying that as considerable time had elapsed since the plan had originated for printing the outlines, that as the large committee of the league had proved unwieldy, that as the H. W. Wilson Co. had received a good deal of advice, much of it contradictory, he was now willing to cancel the agreement entered into with the commissions last year. He thought in order to make progress on the outlines, that his firm had better now publish the outlines independently and let them stand or fall on their merits. Miss Askew of New Jersey moved that the H. W. Wilson Co. be permitted to go ahead independently on this basis. The motion was carried.

#### Prison libraries

The next report was that of the Publications committee on Prison libraries, presented by Miss Eastwood of the New York state library. Miss Eastwood reported on the progress made on the preparation of a list of 1,000 books for use in prison libraries and the methods employed in the preparation. Long tentative lists on each subject are compiled and sent for votes and comments to about 20 librarians who have had experience with the reading needs of prisoners. When returned the votes on each book are tabulated and compared. The fiction list has already been selected and the annotations nearly completed. It is hoped to publish this list separately as a preprint this spring. Several lists have been sent out for votes and the rest are practically ready for mailing. From the correspondence in connection with these lists, Miss Eastwood found a considerable difference in opinion and she asked for guidance on the following points:

1. Shall the list be prepared for reformatories as well as prisons, thus necessitating the inclusion of many boys' books? If so, shall they be distinctively marked as such?

The consensus of opinion seemed to be that while the original plan of preparing for a prison library should be adhered to, there would probably be a considerable number of books included that would be of use in other reformatory institutions; that there should be a generous inclusion of fiction, 50 to 75 per cent, and that it would be better to bring out the simpler character of the books for immature readers, through the annotation, rather than in any other way.

2. Shall classification or call numbers be assigned, or any classification scheme be recommended?

It was agreed that these were best omitted.

3. Shall a list be marked for first purchase?

As the list is to serve two purposes, (1) as a buying list, (2) as a guide to the individual prisoner in selection, it was thought the marking of a first purchase list would be confusing.

4. Shall books for women be included and marked as such?

The majority seemed to think that most of the books on the list would be of interest to women and that special supplementary lists should be compiled for use in prisons where there are women.

5. Shall the needs of some prisons be anticipated or those already making progressive changes be met, by including books on agriculture, athletics, etc.? Shall books on all the trades be included?

It was the general feeling that such lists would too soon be out of date, and that it would be better to refer the prison to its state library commission for help to meet such needs.

The subject of the inclusion of foreign books in the prison list aroused a heated discussion. F. W. Jenkins of the Russell Sage Foundation library,

E. R. Cass, assistant secretary of the Prison association of New York, and others thought it highly necessary to include them. Mr Van Orden, head teacher at Clinton prison, Dannemora, said foreign books prevented the men from learning English and interfered with their training as American citizens. Many foreigners also are illiterate. He thought foreign books should not be allowed. It was decided that if such lists were made they must be prepared independently of this list of 1000 titles, for selection from so many languages and for this special purpose would not only be a long and difficult task, but there would also be no room in a list of this length.

A letter was read from Dr A. C. Hill, inspector of New York state institutional schools, in which he stated that he believed the number of books recommended to prisons should be small, that the books should be inspirational, that fiction should be eliminated, and that books should be in the English language only.

Miss Webster said that Mr Ivan Smith, head teacher of Elmira reformatory, feels that non-fiction should predominate.

#### Publicity

The reports of the Committee on publicity for commission work and of the Committee on aid to new commissions were discussed together. It was felt that while each commission must necessarily work for its own ends, a statement of suggestions and forms of publicity applicable to all states would find a large field of usefulness.

Miss Askew stated that a résumé of the New Jersey commission report is syndicated to all newspapers in the state.

Miss Hewins of Connecticut spoke of the coöperation in Connecticut of the Colonial Dames.

Miss Wright of Vermont showed a map used in publicity work in Vermont which attracted much attention.

Mr Watson of the New York state library moved that the two committees be combined and made permanent with

the president of the League as ex-officio member. The motion was carried.

Mr Watson moved that the model commission law be published in the earliest possible time. The motion was carried.

#### Summer schools

At the meeting on Tuesday morning, Miss Webster presiding, F. K. Walter, vice-director of the New York state library school, gave the following arguments for and against the coöperation of summer library schools.

#### Advantages

1. Breadth of view resulting from interstate activity.

Note, however, obvious advantages of a state summer school consist in directness and adaptation of means to end.

2. Economy

Expense of summer session sometimes quite disproportionate to number of students actually reached.

3. Variety

Corps of instructors would vary, different points of view would be in evidence and some might in this way be induced to attend more than once. The larger corps of instructors would also permit more special features to be included and more adequate treatment of these features. At present, each special course presented usually means weakening the general course.

#### Points to be considered

1. Legality

In some states, e. g. New York, money appropriated for a public or quasi-public educational institution must be used for courses presented within the state. This does not hinder instructors or students from other states from attending such courses given within New York State but no New York State employee could receive either salary or expenses for work done outside the state. This point would have to be settled by each interested state commission. If legal, employees could serve as instructors or lecturers in

return for reduced or free tuition for students from their respective states.

## 2. Probable size of school

Depends on character. If "inspirational" talks are the chief feature, a large number could be accommodated. In this case, similar activities of the library association of the state must be kept in mind.

If technical work, e. g. cataloging, classification and other details of organization are emphasized, a competent reviser for every 20 students as a maximum is necessary for good results. The crowded schedule of summer schools makes leisurely revision out of the question and the varied character of summer school students makes careful attention to their work necessary.

## Conclusion:

Coöperation of neighboring states in giving summer library courses is desirable if funds can be legally procured for the maintenance of such courses, but would be ineffectual unless such coöperation would result in an increase of instructional force sufficient to take care of the probable increase in the number of students.

Miss MacDonald of Pennsylvania felt that the small school gives better results than the large one even though the expense is greater.

Miss Pratt of New Jersey and Miss Leatherman of North Carolina find special advantages in their own small state schools because of the personal touch, individual instruction and knowledge of state conditions.

## Foreign books

John Foster Carr of the Immigrant Publication Society, Inc., New York City, presented an able and illuminating paper on "Books for the foreigner." Mr Carr spoke of the difficulties librarians meet in obtaining competent advice on foreign books. These difficulties vary with the aids available. In Italy there are several societies which have published helpful lists, such as The Dante Alighieri society and the Permanent commission for books for

sailors, but many lists contain trashy and indecent literature. The Immigration Society aims to publish aids to foreigners, books on our government, history and ideals, and lists which include both works of culture and simpler books adapted to the workingman. It works democratically with the foreigner with the coöperation of the leaders of his race. It has recently published *Immigrant and library: Italian helps; with lists of selected books*, which has met with the most cordial reception and is having a wide and varied use. The Society will soon publish a Yiddish list, one for the Spanish speaking Jew, *Makers of America* (in several languages), books on Washington, Franklin, Jefferson and Lincoln written in simple English, yet constituting a well rounded account, with a vocabulary progressive in difficulty. Books on citizenship and United States history are needed and will be published as soon as possible. There is no satisfactory book for the foreigner on America. Those written in Italian are cynical and abusive. The society aims to give to librarians dependable lists of good books with cost, bibliographical descriptions, library rules, samples of conversation, sample guides to pronunciation and an idea of the taste of the average foreigner.

Miss Pratt suggested that the Commissions join the Society in order that requests for information might be sent it and adequate and authoritative responses be received.

Mr. Carr said the Society could now give help on lists in Polish, Yiddish and Italian and hoped soon to do this for other languages.

Miss Betteridge of the New York state library said that the three needs felt by librarians were 1) for authoritative lists, 2) some one to whom lists could be submitted, 3) the publication of books in simple English. These needs seemed to be met by this Society and the League might well coöperate.

Miss Lapes, who represented the North American Civic League for Immigrants (New York), spoke of the

need of pamphlets and material for the foreign mothers, who were beyond the reach of the school, along the lines of care of children, cooking, housekeeping and marketing.

A letter from Mr Dudgeon requested that action be taken on the suggestion of Miss Campbell that some agricultural books and material be made available for foreigners as soon as possible.

Mr Carr said that this need was great and he felt that an attempt should be made the coming year to meet this partially by preparing simple books on farming and gardening.

The question, "Should a new and complete edition of the League handbook be published next year" was discussed next.

Miss MacDonald thought one much needed because of the number of changes in laws and personnel since the last handbook in 1912.

Miss Leatherman suggested that a handbook prepared now would not be timely for those state legislatures which meet in odd years.

Miss MacDonald moved that a new handbook be published in 1916. The motion was carried.

Miss Betteridge made the motion that committee reports be printed and distributed in advance of the annual meeting of the League at which they are to be presented. This was carried.

Mr Walter, in Mr Wynkoop's absence, presented the latter's suggestion that the Executive board of the League provide for a mid-winter meeting and the membership be increased from seven to nine. Miss MacDonald put this in the form of a motion which was carried.

No decision was reached on the last topic: "Should the powers and functions of the publications committee conform more closely to those of the publications committee of the American library association?"

Mr Wynkoop, through Mr Walter, proposed that the League publish a list of mediocre books which libraries would be advised not to buy. Discussion followed, but the feeling prevailed

that this object might be accomplished in some other way.

Miss MacDonald moved that a hearty vote of thanks be extended to the New York public library for its cordial hospitality to the League. This was expressed by a standing vote.

CAROLINE F. WEBSTER.

#### Meeting of the Middle-west section

The meeting of the Middle-west section of the League of library commissions was held at the Hotel La Salle, Chicago, December 30, 1914, to January 1, 1915. There were present at least one representative, and in some cases several, of Library commissions from Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and Wisconsin, with a large number of other library workers present at each session.

#### Publishers and libraries

The first subject taken up at the opening session on Wednesday morning was "Coöperation between library workers and publishers and book dealers." Mr Bowerman, librarian of the Public library of Washington, D. C., was the speaker. He said that the desire of librarians is to see fewer and better books published, and those published in larger editions and at lower prices that libraries may be able to buy more copies in order to compete with the trash that goes into the homes of all communities. The standpoint of publishers and book dealers is naturally the financial one, and unless publishers can be convinced that the library is a large and increasing purchaser of books and that the existence of libraries does not hurt but actually promotes the sale of books, any efforts at coöperation are futile. He thought that publishers ought not to issue so many repetitions or duplicates of catch-penny books, and that librarians ought to help publishers to make a bigger and more permanent success of a few of their most important items, and thus convince them of the financial advantage of publishing fewer books.

Representatives of A. C. McClurg & Company present stated that as publisher and book dealer they did try to coöperate with libraries, but that a publisher must publish books to sell, and the better books do not always sell.

The conclusion for librarians was summed up by Mr Dudgeon, who said that librarians should stand for ownership of good books in the home, and should let the community know that the library is the center of book information, and thus convince publishers that the library is coöperating in raising the standard and increasing the sale of good books.

#### Books for foreigners

The discussion of the question, "Can there be an effective method of selecting foreign books suitable for traveling libraries?" was led by Miss Borresen, of the South Dakota commission, who out of her experience with lists of foreign books used in a library in a community with many foreign borrowers, showed the need of expert knowledge both of suitable books in other languages, and of the needs of the readers themselves.

A committee was appointed to consider some plan for coöperation between commissions and librarians in the selection of books in foreign languages.

To the question, "In what form of commission work are the best returns obtained?" most of the commissions agreed that in the development of local public libraries the most permanent and largest results were realized. In Missouri, because of the widely scattered population, their best work had been done through the traveling library. Mr Dudgeon thought that by reason of the need, the quality of reading done, the large circulation and the cost, the serving of rural communities through the traveling library is best worth while.

The question, "How can small libraries be warned against buying unsuitable books?" called forth the suggestions that libraries and library boards

should be educated not only to know books, but to resist demands from the outside; to know that they need not buy books because asked for; that librarians should be allowed to make selections because they have the approved lists, and that small libraries should be warned not to buy books not included in the *Booklist*, and if tempted to go outside, they should require proof of the suitability of books desired.

The meeting on Thursday morning was opened by Miss Brown's report on "Study club outlines," read by Miss Tyler. A discussion followed on the form of the outline, whether topical or question was the more useful to the study clubs for whom the outlines were designed. At the close of the discussion a motion was made and unanimously carried that the questions involved in Miss Brown's report be left entirely to Miss Brown as editor and Mr Wilson as publisher, with the tender of assistance from the committee and the commissions.

#### Apprentices and assistants

The discussion of the subject of "Securing better apprentices and assistants in small libraries," was led by Miss Templeton, of Nebraska. She regarded the fact that such libraries must become training grounds for those who soon pass on to further training or more lucrative positions as not without its compensations in the better quality of work secured from one looking forward to librarianship, and also in better work on the part of the librarian, in the freshening of her own enthusiasm and a better vision of the real essentials through her instruction of a beginner. The small library also gives the assistant a broader outlook from intimate association with the librarian, and a more comprehensive view of the different parts of the system than could be obtained in a larger library.

Miss Hazeltine, who followed, felt that the day of entering upon library work from the love of it was passed



and that there must now be an economic basis to attract those seeking employment there; that to better this economic basis there must be increased appropriations; the work of assistants placed on an efficiency scale, and the seeking of good apprentices with a definite understanding of requirements and what the end of the course will bring.

On the pedagogic side there must be planned a regular course of instruction which will help in establishing the economic basis and bring prestige to a library for careful training of assistants and apprentices. Miss Hazeltine also called attention to the "Apprentice's course," that is now being published serially in the Wisconsin *Library Bulletin*, the work of the faculty of the Wisconsin library school.

#### Summer schools

The last question taken up on Thursday morning had reference to the "Feasibility of the coöperation of adjoining states in holding summer school sessions alternately," and a paper sent by Mr Walter of New York was read by Mr Wyer.

The advantages of such coöperation, as seen by Mr Walter, were: 1, greater breadth of view from the broadening of the field; 2, economy, as a school of fifty can be conducted at much less relative expense than one of thirty; and 3, variety in more special features made possible by more instructors. On the other hand, there would be uncertainty of financial support, the character of the courses to be offered would require careful consideration, and in order to make any scheme of coöperation measurably successful the instructional force must be adequately increased if the student attendance be increased.

The discussion which followed showed a unanimity of opinion among the commissions, that the objections to coöperation were: First, the legal difficulty growing out of combination in summer school work of the Commission with the state university; Second,

that some schools were already too large to make additions desirable; Third, the additional expense to students in greater distance of travel, and Fourth, the lack of personal touch between Commission workers and students from their own state, which is a most desirable feature of summer school work, and that coöperation in an advanced course was much more desirable than in elementary work.

The president announced that he had assumed the right to appoint a committee to recommend action on the Green bill, if action seemed wise, and called for the report of this committee, which follows:

Your committee on the Green bill wishes to make a report of progress and to present two recommendations for action: The bill in question has been drawn up by Congressman Wm. Green of Iowa, largely on the recommendation of W. R. Orchard, a member of the Iowa commission. This bill provides for the free postal delivery and return of books sent out by public libraries over rural free delivery routes. The advantages of such a privilege to libraries and their patrons are at once apparent. Those libraries who, receiving financial support from surrounding rural districts, have offered parcel post service to their rural patrons upon the making of a deposit to cover postal charges, have not found the farmer, as a rule, willing to pay postage in addition to his taxes. Such a system as this bill proposes would undoubtedly greatly aid the rural extension work.

The members of your committee have tried to sound the opinion of librarians, postmasters, congressmen, and officials in their respective states. Librarians have, of course, enthusiastically received the idea. One or two postmasters have felt that such a system would too heavily burden the rural carriers without compensation. Others, however, have heartily approved the project and have volunteered their help.

These inquiries of postmasters have brought out the fact that the Postmaster General has been urging postmasters to develop the sending of library books by parcel post, and if this is true, the Department should not be unalterably opposed to aiding the libraries in this way.

No real opposition has been expressed by any one. Any objections suggested have been, not existing, but possible difficulties.

The question naturally arises as to whether such action should be taken by Congress or by the Post Office department if, as does not seem probable, the Department could legally do so. One postmaster

feels that Congress should, by legislation, compel the Postmaster General to act. Whichever method may be better, the originators of the bill are, in fact, trying to introduce it in Congress.

Your committee accordingly is unanimously of the opinion that as the Commissions will be chiefly benefited by this privilege, they should individually work through the libraries in their respective states and through their Congressmen for the introduction and favorable consideration of this bill. The committee also feels that, although the League may be the association chiefly interested in the passage of this bill, the weightier influence of the American library association would be of great assistance, and that as long as there is a committee of this organization on Federal and state relations, the League might well bespeak its aid.

Accordingly your committee recommends: That the League of library commissions bring the Green bill to the attention of the A. L. A. council with the request that it be referred with approval to the Committee on federal and state relations for help in securing the passage of this bill.

That, in case this bill is not acted upon during the present session of Congress, it be brought up for consideration and action at the next business meeting of the League, and that as concerted action cannot be legally voted at this meeting, the individual members use their influence to secure attention to and passage for this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

JULIA A. ROBINSON, Chairman.

FANNIE C. RAWSON.

HENRY N. SANBORN.

On motion of Mr Bostwick the report was accepted and the recommendations adopted.

#### Library institutes

"The most effective system of library institutes" was taken up on Friday morning in a paper by Miss Caroline Webster, library organizer in New York state, read by the secretary. Miss Webster stated that the aim of these institutes in New York was coöperation and getting together for instruction and mutual conference, and that as a result of their experience in this work, the following definite conclusions have been reached. First, work to be effective must be under the State library commission, as there must be some permanent office to plan the work, conduct the correspondence, and look after details; second, it is well to

have the State association the nominal head, thus affording the coöperation and assistance of the leading libraries of the state; third, it is important to have an outline in simple elementary form for a course of instruction.

Miss Robinson stated that in Iowa the aim was the same as that in New York, and that she heartily agreed with Miss Webster's conclusions regarding the relation of the Library commission and of the State association to this work, but in Iowa the policy has been, not to give help through definite instruction from the leaders, but through mutual discussion and exchange of views and experience among the librarians themselves, and that the meetings have proved themselves to be thoroughly worth while, being nearer to the small libraries both geographically and in the subjects discussed than the larger meetings of the State association.

The report of the meeting of the Eastern section, held in New York, December 28-29, was read by Mr Dudgeon and brought up again the discussion of foreign lists. On Mr Dudgeon's suggestion that books and bulletins on agriculture very seldom appeared in foreign languages, the motion was made and carried that this matter be referred to the committee appointed to consider foreign lists.

Miss Baldwin reviewed the Washington report of the Committee on aid to new commissions, which included the following suggestions:

1. Printing in convenient pamphlet form the model commission law recommended at the Bretton Woods meeting of the League.
2. Making a collection of charts showing the growth of the work in various states, and of pictures of traveling libraries, book wagons, etc.
3. Compilation of handbook giving information most likely to be of use in a campaign to arouse interest in commission work.
4. The appointment of a committee of which the president of the League

shall be chairman, to keep in touch with conditions in the states which are endeavoring to secure commissions and to offer such advice and assistance as may be possible.

After a discussion of the subject the following motion was carried: That the recommendations of the committee be accepted except the one making the president chairman of the permanent committee. The motion also was passed: That the model law, with additional material be printed at once if it can be gotten ready in time for use this year.

#### Book valuation

The question, "How can the character of a book be conveyed to patrons and custodians of traveling libraries?" called forth the following suggestions: The pasting of annotations on the doors of traveling library boxes, Bookmarks, Pasted slips in the front of books, The pasting of the paper book covers on a poster which could be hung in a conspicuous place, Annotations pasted on the outside of the front cover of the books in three of the five libraries of a group that there might be some basis for ascertaining results. The sending of annotations to the newspaper in the place to which a traveling library was going.

On motion of Miss Baldwin, the secretary was instructed to extend to the Chicago library club the appreciation of the League for the entertainment afforded them. Carried.

JULIA A. ROBINSON,  
Secretary.

Mary Roberts Rinehart, who was a trained nurse before she began to write plays and best sellers, sailed on the *Franconia* for Europe January 9. She will go first to England and later, if possible, to France, Switzerland and Austria. By virtue of her hospital experience she hopes to get close to the front where she may be of real service and where, too, she will have the best opportunities for gathering fresh literary material.

#### Library Meetings

**Chicago**—The Chicago library club for its mid-winter meeting entertained as usual the librarians visiting Chicago for the various meetings at that time. The reception and entertainment were held at the rooms of the Western society of engineers on December 30. The members and guests were received by Miss Louise B. Krause, president of the club; Mr H. C. Wellman, president of the A. L. A.; Mr M. S. Dudgeon, president of the League of library commissions; Miss M. E. Ahern, president of the Illinois library association; and Mr J. H. Warder, secretary of the Western society of engineers.

According to the announced program the Chicago Little Theater was to present "Marionettes," but owing to sickness the program was changed. Miss Hinkins, Miss Virginia Hinkins, Miss Berg and Miss Rowntree gave "Some Old English cuntry dances"; then Ellen van Volkenburg gave an imitative interpretation of Maude Adams in "What every woman knows," after which refreshments were served.

The evening's program and social arrangements were in charge of Miss Renée Stern, chairman of the Social committee.

A. H. SHEARER.

**California**—The meeting of the California county librarians at Sacramento, December 9-12, is reported as being one of the most interesting and helpful that has yet been held.

Some of the topics discussed were: University extension, Library service; Various kinds of library service to district schools and to high schools; Reference work, subjects interesting to the Staff; Custodians; Library records; Housing the library; The county farm adviser and the county free library; Library service for various communities and kinds of people.

J. L. Gillis, state-librarian, outlined the plans for the library exhibit at the Panama-Pacific exposition and in general added to the enthusiasm of the occasion.

The State board of education was in session during the week and the members from time to time were present for a part of the program, with the result that their enthusiasm and interest received an added impetus.

The report of the California state library school was received with enthusiasm.

**Massachusetts**—A neighborhood meeting was held at the Public library of Haverhill, Mass., December 10, at which 38 librarians and trustees from the libraries of the Merrimac Valley and Southern New Hampshire were present.

J. G. Moulton, librarian of the Haverhill public library, spoke of the ways in which neighboring libraries could cooperate.

Florence T. Blunt spoke of and displayed some of the recent and standard inexpensive reference books desirable for a small library.

The question box brought out some practical suggestions and a demonstration of book mending was given.

An exhibit was made of the pictures available in the Haverhill library for lending to nearby libraries. The usual Christmas exhibit of children's books was in progress and attention was called to the best new children's books and to some of the recent editions of standard children's books which might be used for replacements.

**Missouri**—The first meeting of the Missouri Valley library club was held at the Public library, Kansas City, on the evening of December 10, 1914. The program was planned around the idea, "Books for Christmas gifts."

In introducing the subject, President Purd B. Wright said: "Unfortunately the recommendation by librarians of books for Christmas gifts has been usually confined to children's literature. Believing that adults would appreciate suggestion, as well as the help the library could give, in the matter of books as gifts, the program has been arranged around the broad theory of something for every member of the family to read.

"It is presupposed that the donor will know something of the likes and dislikes of the person for whom the gift is intended; that one will not send an 'advanced' play or book of essays to a hard-working, family-loving friend of the lighter reading class. On the other hand, what a god-send one of the new books of plays, or interesting talk of the stage, or poems of Tagore, or chatty essays would be to that college friend who married and is as happy as may be in some far off country town; mayhap a magazine, with its weekly or monthly visit would bring happiness and a renewed reminder of the thoughtful friend. And, had you thought of it, that a suggestion of something for nothing—how to get it—was to be found in that most wonderful of wonderful collections, U. S. Pub. Doc's, might prove a blessing?"

The program was as interesting and as varied as promised. Prof Ward H. Edwards, librarian of William Jewell college, Liberty, talked about "Books for our country friends" in a way that made his hearers wish they were in the country and had him for a friend.

Charles E. Rush, librarian of the St. Joseph public library, read his paper on "Illustrators of children's books." The sprightly comments were interspersed with lantern slide illustrations.

Other numbers on the program were as follows:

Elsie Tough, Drama; Florence Smith, Books for High school boys and girls; Grace Berger, Music; Lillian Sutherland, Children's books; Grace Phillips, Periodicals; Minnie Neale, Fiction; Mary P. Billingsley, U. S. Doc.

I. R. BUNDY, Secretary.

**Pennsylvania**—The second meeting of the Pennsylvania library club for the winter of 1914-1915 was held at the H. Josephine Widener branch of the Free library of Philadelphia on Monday evening, January 11, 1915. The meeting was called to order by the president, Hon Thomas L. Montgomery.

After the transaction of business, Mr Montgomery, after a few words of welcome to the members and their friends, introduced Mr A. Edward

Newton, of the Walker Electric Company, who gave a most delightful and humorous talk on his many and varied experiences as a "Book collector." Mr Newton said he did not intend to say anything which would lead any one to suspect that he was "mad about Johnson," but he is, and can truly say that his enjoyment of books began and will end with Boswell's "Life of Johnson."

At the close of the meeting the usual reception was held, and the 109 persons present remained until the hour was late, which convinced the members of the entertainment committee that their efforts had not been in vain.

JEAN E. GRAFFEN,  
Secretary.

#### Atlantic City Meeting

The nineteenth annual meeting of librarians at Atlantic City will take place March 5-6. Headquarters will be at the Hotel Chelsea as usual.

The special lectures will be given by Samuel McCord Crothers, D. D., Cambridge, Dr W. D. Johnston, St. Paul, and Stewart Culin, Esq., Brooklyn. An interesting number will be a debate on the question, "The present tendency of libraries is to help the public towards a state of helplessness." The affirmative will be led by Miss Corinne Bacon and the negative by Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh.

Special railroad and hotel rates have been allowed.

#### New York State Teachers' Association Library section

The meeting of the library section of the State teachers' association was held at Albany in the new High school building on Tuesday, November 24. The meeting was called to order by Miss Adeline Zachert, president of the section, who stated that the program was the outgrowth of the need expressed at the last meeting of the section. The morning session was to be devoted to Book selection, the afternoon to short discussion of technical problems of Grammar school libraries

and a general discussion of High school problems.

Miss Caroline E. Aldrich, children's librarian of the Utica public library, was the first speaker to be introduced. Her subject, "Bad books and why," was well handled. She cautioned librarians and teachers against unequivocal disapproval of "bad books." She said in part:

So many examples have been quoted of the uplifting effect of good books and the demoralizing effect of the bad ones, that the mass of people who deal with children's books, other than those who write, publish and sell them, have been driven to attempt the laudable yet overwhelming and probably futile task of eliminating everything but the good from the reading of children.

The first nickel novel is not harmful. But there always follows a second, a third, a fourth, and on and on until the bright little mind can grasp only that kind of bare-plotted, exaggerated, stereotyped yarn, can talk only in the sordid and coarsened conversation of the cheap author, can thrill only to the vivid portrayal of brute instinct. His powers of self-expression are deadened until there is only his nickel-novel self to express.

We are all working with one idea—the betterment of children's reading, and in laying tremendous emphasis upon the book-side, let us not forget the children's side! Lest our book-lists and our papers and our conversation and ourselves smack of pedantry, lest we lack the courage of our natural convictions, let us not, in looking so far ahead towards the ideal, disregard the actual present. Let us not forget our own faulty childhood. Let us not be too broad to be narrow."

Miss Alice Hazeltine, head of Children's department, St. Louis public library, being unable to be present, her paper, "Good books and how to make them attractive," was read by Miss Betteridge. Miss Hazeltine suggested various methods of making books attractive, emphasizing the importance



of story telling and reading aloud, but she felt that after all a list of methods and devices was of little practical use.

Mr James M. Glass, principal, Genesee school, Rochester, discussed very ably the subject of "Good books and their place in the English course." He said in part:

"It is the fixed custom of locomotion that the motive power shall precede the load. The English course viewed as the load to be drawn, furnishes an incentive to select good books as one motive power which will bring the English course to its destination of self-expression.

From another point of view of the English course, the direct study of literature determines in part at least the place of good books in the course of study. It is questionable, however, whether the surgical treatment of dissection to which masterpieces of literature are subjected in the literature class will guarantee the literary taste and love of good books.

Increasingly we are training toward a wholesome and right use of the hours of leisure. Does the English course contribute to this end? An incentive stimulated by the English course which directs a child to a library, may fasten in his life a love of good books. We may, if we treat the child as father of the man, almost subconsciously establish in the child's mind the stimulus for reading."

The Chair called attention to the exhibit of books and material for aid in work in High school libraries, prepared by Miss Houghton, of the High school library, Miss McKay, Pruyne library, Miss Davis, Public library of Troy, and Mr Walter of the State library, which could not fail to be of great assistance to school librarians.

The afternoon session opened with a round-table on Grammar school problems conducted by Miss Caroline Webster, library organizer, New York State education department.

Miss Aldrich of Utica discussed Care of books; Miss Zachert, Keeping track of books and Overdue books; Mr

Walter, Classifying the school library; Miss Stebbins, Utica public library, Essential reference books; Miss Eastwood, State library, The book agent and Books in sets; Miss Grace Betteridge, Traveling libraries.

At the close of the round-table Dr Sherman Williams, chief of the School libraries division of the New York State education department, discussed High school library problems.

"The School libraries are at present," he said, "largely made of books that pupils will not read unless compelled to do so. They are not for children, but for adults, men and women having mature minds." The books should be carefully selected to suit high school needs.

The present method of teaching literature in the schools, too, he felt, was of little help in creating and directing the reading habit and "the indifference on the part of teachers and principals to the school library and ignorance as to its value" is a third difficulty to be overcome.

The principal difficulty, he feels, lies with the authorities in requiring teachers "to do that for which they have no training."

"If the best results are to be had," he said, "every secondary school should have a librarian who should have complete control in the grades as well, except in the case of cities of considerable size. The person to hold this position should be one especially trained for the work."

The functions of the school library are:

1. Reading for pleasure.
2. Reading to supplement school studies.
3. Reading for the sake of culture—for uplift to create higher ideals.

The librarian especially trained for the work would devise many ways of developing these functions.

Miss Kate Collins, teacher of English in the State normal school at Geneseo, in discussing Dr Williams' paper, objected to his suggestion that

the librarian should have the directing of the children's reading. She said, "the responsibility rests, as it always has and will, on the English teachers."

Mr Charles Williams, superintendent of schools at Hudson, N. Y., resented, too, the suggestion that the trained librarian have supervision of the reading in the schools.

"No librarian," he said, "should have the veto or the right to interfere with a competent teacher's wishes as to the choice of books or the use of them," though he felt that a trained librarian might do a great deal in getting pupils to read and use books. "As the chief function of the specialist in music or penmanship is to train and direct the teachers, so the chief function of the librarian in the larger school systems must be, after caring for the property itself, to interest and assist the teachers in suggesting books for their pupils.

The report of the nominating committee was given as follows: For president, Miss Elizabeth Thorne; for secretary, Miss Margaret Weaver. The meeting then adjourned.

CAROLINE F. WEBSTER.

The Denver public library has issued a reading list and reference list on "Peace." This is a work that every library in the country ought to emulate.

A word of warning uttered by a speaker at the recent meeting of the Colorado library association seems to have a foundation for its utterance.

He said that except for a few, there would be no reliable accounts of the European war until the struggle is over, and then the reliable accounts would be written by officers and men at present engaged in fighting. He recommended at this time for enlightenment as to the European situation, Bernhardt's "Germany and the next war," Usher's "Pan-Germanism," and Cramb's "Germany and England."

Hardly any one will require more than a few books in view of the tremendous amount of current writing in magazines and other periodicals.

### Library Schools

The first year's work of the California State library school was finished December 18, 1914. The new term began January 4, 1915. Entrance is by examination, based on at least college graduation.

#### Carnegie library of Pittsburgh

##### Training school for children's librarians

Miss Corinne Bacon, of the H. W. Wilson Company, visited the Training school on January 4 and gave two lectures, one on "What it means to be a librarian," the other upon "Two poets—Masefield and Gibson."

The courses scheduled for the winter term are as follows: Reference work, Story telling, Games and plays, Classification, Illustrated book lists, Cataloging, Book selection, Lending systems, Book numbers and shelf listing, Seminar for periodical review and Library work with schools.

#### Alumnae notes

Martha Rodes Carter, '13, has been appointed assistant in the children's room at the Lawrenceville branch of the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh.

Alice Rowan Douglas Gillim, '15, has resigned from the position in the Cincinnati public library to return to her home in Owensboro, Ky., where she has accepted a position in the Public library.

Alice Gordon Goddard, '03, is in Sewickley, Pa., for a few months to organize the children's work in the Public library.

Bertha Winship Livezey, '12, has been appointed children's librarian in the Cincinnati public library.

Ruth Tillotson Miller, '11, has been appointed children's librarian in the New York public library.

#### New York public library

The first term ended with examinations and the usual Christmas party.

The second term began January 4. Several students had been called home by death or illness in their families, but all had returned except one junior and one senior. In addition, two juniors of previous years who had left work unfinished or had to repeat work, joined

the class for the rest of the year. One junior decided to divide the course, taking the rest in two years, and one resigned to be married. The corrected enrollment is therefore 39 juniors, 5 part-time juniors, and 35 seniors, 79 in all.

Junior students who remained in town for the holidays enjoyed several social functions at the homes of New York students and a recital at the home of Miss Mary Ogden White, winding up with a candy-pull at the apartment of one of the faculty.

Junior lectures of the second term from visiting lecturers have been as follows:

Binding materials, and Binding procedure (two lectures) by Arthur L. Bailey, following a demonstration lecture on binding by Miss Murray.

A literary clinic, or The therapeutic value of books, by Dr Samuel McChord Crothers.

Both lecturers were entertained informally by the school after the lecture.

Senior courses began with the following lectures:

School and college library course:

Isadore G. Mudge. College library reference work. (Lectures one and two.)

Visits to libraries of Morris, Wadleigh, and St. Regis high schools.

**Advanced reference and cataloging course:**  
Isadore G. Mudge. College library reference work.

Sarah H. Harlow. Literature of botany.

Susan A. Hutchinson. Literature of art.

**Administration course:**

Frances Rathbone Coe. Publicity for libraries.

Marcia Dalphin. Dealing with children.

Mildred Davis. Dealing with children.

**Children's librarians' course:**

Marcia Dalphin. Dealing with children.

Mildred Davis. Dealing with children.

Visits to upper side children's rooms.

The December Alumni "at home" took the form of a reunion of the class of 1913, many of whom were present.

Gladys Alexander, a student in 1913-14, has been engaged as assistant at the Children's Museum library.

Cora Rabe, a part-time student, was married December 22, to William F. Hayes, Jr., New York.

The school is contemplating a course of lectures and library visits for out-of-town librarians of small libraries, to be inspirational and recreational in character, and to be given in May of this year.

Further announcement will be made later.

#### **New York State library school**

Alfred W. Abrams, chief of the Visual Instruction division of the University of the state of New York, spoke to the school, December 17, on the aims and purposes of visual instruction. The educational influence of illustrations was indicated by a series of lantern slides showing good and bad points of illustrations actually used in school work.

December 18, Royal B. Farnum, specialist in drawing for the University, spoke on the selection of books on the fine arts, mentioning a number of popular but misleading books as well as a number in which popular treatment and accuracy are combined.

January 11-15, Mrs Mary E. S. Root, of the Providence public library, gave a series of talks on work with children. Mrs Root's talks were supplemented by a brief course of required reading and illustrative material on children's rooms and children's literature. The general subjects treated were: Location, equipment and decoration of the children's library; Routine work and ideals; Story-telling; Library and school; and Selection of juvenile books. The story-telling section of the Woman's club of Albany under the direction of Mrs William R. Watson attended the talk on story-telling and in return invited the students to attend an additional talk on the subject given by Mrs Root in the school lecture room on the evening of January 14, under the auspices of the club. By a fortunate coincidence, the students were also invited to attend a recital of Uncle Remus stories by Richard Thomas Wyche, author of "Some great stories and how to tell them," at the State college for teachers on January 13.

The senior seminar appointments on work with schools have been partly conducted by the students. The appointment, Library instruction in elementary schools, was conducted by Miss Thirza E. Grant, and those on high schools, normal schools, and col-

leges and universities by Miss Winifred Ver Nooy, Miss Mildred H. Lawson and Miss Anna G. Hall respectively. Each leader prepared a list of suggested reading and assigned definite subjects or definite locations to be reported on by individual members of the class. General talks by the vice-director and Dr Sherman Williams, chief of the School libraries division of the University of the state of New York, were also included in the series.

Mary E. Robbins spent December 17-19 inspecting the school and its work for the A. L. A. committee on professional training.

The school will be represented in the exhibit of the University of the state of New York at the Panama exposition at San Francisco by five slides which will form a part of the series to be shown by the stereomograph. Two of the slides will be descriptive, while the other three will show the main study, the main lecture room and the office. The school will also be represented in the library exhibit which is being prepared by Mr Gillis of the California state library.

#### Summer course

The summer course of the New York State library school will be held June 1-July 14. It will be a general elementary course and the principal subjects will extend through the entire six weeks. Miss Adeline B. Zachert, director of children's work in the Rochester public library, will give a series of four talks on work with children and will pay particular attention to the problems of book selection for small libraries. Other general talks will be given by members of the staff of the New York State library and others. A special circular will shortly be issued. The tuition, as usual, will be free to library workers in New York state and a fee of \$20 for the entire course will be charged those outside the state. Any questions regarding the course should be addressed to The Registrar, New York State Library School, Albany, N. Y.

F. K. WALTER.

#### Pratt Institute

The first term's work is devoted almost exclusively to technical subjects. In the second term the emphasis is laid on book selection and on library administration, and the different phases of the latter subject are presented by visiting lecturers. Miss Clara W. Hunt, of the Brooklyn public library, began on January 5 a course of three lectures on the administration of the children's room, taking first the personal relations between the staff and the children. The third of Miss Hunt's lectures was given at the new Children's branch in Brownsville, after which the class made a thorough inspection of the branch. On January 6 Mrs Frances Rathbone Coe, '03, presented the administrative problems of the small library in a very practical talk based on her own experience. Miss Theresa Hitchler, of the Brooklyn public library, spoke on January 19 on the administration of a catalog department.

The school attended the meeting of the New York library club at the Long Island Historical Society library on January 14. The subject of the afternoon, "The church, the library and the community," was presented by the Rev Milo H. Gates.

The vice-director attended the mid-winter library meeting in Chicago, where as chairman, she presided over the two sessions of the round-table of Library school faculties. At this meeting it was voted to form the Association of American library schools.

#### Alumni notes

Rachel Baldwin, '08, has been made substitute assistant in the library of the Girls' high-school in Brooklyn.

Ada M. McCormick, '12, has resigned the headship of the technical and municipal department of the library at Ft. Wayne, Ind., to assume the position of municipal reference librarian in the Cleveland public library.

Virginia N. Gillham, '14, has received a temporary appointment as assistant in the Public library of Denver, pending a Civil Service examination.

Nathalie Smith, '14, has been made cataloger and general assistant at the Public library of Eveleth, Minn.

JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,  
Vice-director.

#### Simmons college

Classes were resumed on January 5, after the Christmas recess of two weeks.

Owing to the holidays but one visit has been made, that to the Somerville library on January 18. Among recent visitors the school has had the pleasure of welcoming Miss Jennie Fellows, of the Albany library school, who consented to speak to the cataloging class, and Dr Louis N. Wilson, librarian of Clark university, who addressed the classes on January 25.

The Library school has received as a gift from the Riverside Press a most interesting exhibit to illustrate the printing of a book, which will be an invaluable and much appreciated addition to the printing course.

Classification is now in the hands of Miss Abby Sargent, the librarian of the Medford public library, who is lecturing on the Cutter Expansive classification.

With the new term in February, the students will have more variety in courses and in instructors, as Mr Belden will then begin the Public documents course, Mr Bolton the History of libraries, and Miss Jordan the course in Library work with children.

#### Graduate notes

Abbie Allen, '11, has been appointed cataloger in the University of Chicago library.

Elva Greef, '13-'14, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Clarinda, Iowa.

Charlotte Noyes, '11, has resigned from the library of the General Electric Company, Schenectady, to join the cataloging force of the reference department of the New York public library.

Edna Winn, '06, is cataloging special medical material for Dr Frank Lahey, Boston.

Mary C. Peckham, '08, was married December 30, 1914, to Edward Robert Bootey, of Jamestown, N. Y.

Marguerite Hawley, '11, was married December 30, 1914, to Oscar Maxwell Meyer, of Lincoln, Neb.

Olive French, for the last two years the secretary to the Library department, was married December 29 to Dr Chester Elijah Kellogg, of Bryn Mawr, Pa.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY.

#### Western Reserve university

During the month the school had the pleasure of hearing several visiting librarians. Miss May Masee, editor of the A. L. A. *Booklist*, spoke on the method of selecting the books and editing the notes for that publication. Henry E. Legler, librarian of the Chicago public library, gave an illustrated lecture on "Library extension work of the Chicago public library." Miss Mary E. Robbins, former director of the Library school of Simmons college, visited the school on behalf of the A. L. A. committee on professional training, and spent two days in attending classes and conferring with the members of the faculty. Ernest J. Reese, an alumnus of the school and now instructor in the Illinois library school, spoke of the unity of interests of the several library schools. Miss Audiene Graham, '13, now the librarian at Owatonna, Minn., told of the interesting work of rural extension carried on by her library. A visit from James D. Phillips of the Houghton, Mifflin Company afforded the opportunity for gaining through an informal talk much interesting and valuable information regarding the publishing business.

A program of Christmas music on the victrola and a Christmas tree were planned by the class for December 18, just before the holiday vacation, and Miss Katharine Jewell Everts made the occasion a particularly happy one by reading one of Lady Gregory's short plays suited to the season.

During the term the class in Book evaluation has enjoyed and profited by the book criticisms given at the staff



round-table of the Cleveland public library by one member of the class being present and reporting on the criticisms at the next class period.

The school was represented at the various mid-winter library meetings in Chicago during the holidays by Mr Brett, Miss Tyler, Miss Howe, Miss Cass, Miss Eastman and Miss Burnite. On the opening day of the school following the Christmas recess, Miss Corinne Bacon, former director of Drexel Institute library school, spoke on "What it means to be a librarian."

ALICE S. TYLER,  
Director.

### Library School Instructors' Meeting

The round-table of Library School instructors held two sessions on Friday, January 1, 1915, at the Hotel La Salle, Chicago. There were 25 present, representing the following library schools: Illinois, New York public library, New York state library, Pittsburgh, Pratt, Simmons, Syracuse, Western Reserve, and Wisconsin. Miss Rathbone was chairman of the meeting, and Miss Curtis, secretary.

At the luncheon which followed the morning session, there was a discussion of the advisability of forming a more permanent organization than the round-table, which had held annual meetings in Chicago since January, 1911. It was voted to form such an organization, to be called the Association of American library schools; the membership to consist of the directors, vice-directors and instructors of regular library schools; the officers to be a president, chosen for one year, and a secretary, chosen for three years. The chairman of the meeting appointed Mr J. I. Wyer, president of the association, and Miss Curtis, secretary.

FLORENCE R. CURTIS,  
Secretary.

The power of conscience is very great and is of great weight on both sides; so that they fear nothing who have done no wrong, and they, on the other hand, who have done wrong think that punishment is always hanging over them.

### The Riverside Instruction in Library Service

The plan for instruction at the Riverside public library is a combination of a training class and a library school.

#### 1. The training class

Candidates are admitted under rules resembling other training classes in American libraries, with a little more emphasis upon good health and fitness and a very little upon the examination in the usual subjects of public education. We have both high school and college graduates.

The course is for a year and the staff is recruited from the training class, but no promise of employment is given and no rule covers any such expectancy.

#### 2. The school

The word "school" is used modestly and with no intention to confuse the candidate or to rival the well known schools given over to class work throughout the year. The term "short course" is misleading because, while it is short, it is not a "short course" in the sense of the summer schools and brief institutes.

The nucleus of the attendance at the school is the training class. The students in training begin in October and the winter school begins in January. From January 18 to March 3, 1915, we have notable instructors from east and west who teach the usual technical subjects and, in addition, very thorough courses in a number of subjects not usually attempted in a short course.

The program is so arranged that employees from other libraries may select subjects and time their attendance for a part of the eight weeks or the whole program, as they may desire.

The dominant idea is public service and especially the management of that service; we call it "contact and control in public service." The name of one course, "Administrative discretion," partially explains the point of view.

My own statement of the problem is that the greatest thing in a library

is people and that books are only tools or containers.

### 3. In general

The kind of servants we try to produce is one who can go to a small, non-departmentized library, there to be competent in their social contribution and quite able to handle a budget as well as books and their necessary technical records. If servants can do that they have also enough technical training to become very useful employees in a large library system. I think, however, that our training conflicts with the idea of producing experts in one technical subject and it is true that all of our graduates have either become librarians or heads of departments in places of responsibility and more or less of management.

In California there is the most thoroughgoing, far-reaching library law ever invented and its summation is the County free library system. The purpose is to reach the remotest person with the book from fifty-eight county centers, all related and all in close touch with the state library.

Mr James Gillis, the state librarian, deserves praise for the idea and its legislation. It is a good law, but is in its trial stage and will undergo adjustments as time may disclose the needs.

This County free library law, however, is so far reaching and so complex and elastic in its application that library law becomes a highly important subject in our curriculum. Had I the time and this were the proper place, I should be glad to tell the readers of PUBLIC LIBRARIES more about this California law which is imperfectly understood, even within the state. It suffices to say that it makes law a subject upon which hard drill is given. That, again, emphasizes our point of public affairs and the actual operations and the function of public service.

The Riverside public library is also the Riverside County free library, and Riverside County is almost the exact size of Massachusetts. It requires 50 branches now for service, and there are about 10 other points awaiting the service.

With the 60,000 volumes now in stock and the borrowing privilege of the State library, we manage on a combined city and county income of about \$25,000.

So, then, there are three features: the county library, the city library, and the school. Others are planned, but it is the training school we describe here.

All work and class schedules are planned for six days a week, and not less than six hours a day. Time is given for intensive work in both cataloging and classification and thanks to the criticisms of the directors of the schools in New York public library and Pratt Institute, we have found that classification should have more time, relatively, than we thought proper or necessary. It's a good thing to consider the criticisms of our neighbors, although we differ in many things.

Under the County free library law we find ourselves permitted and encouraged to develop good service in the public schools. The way is plain in positive and legal provisions. The adjustments seem good for both parties and the prospect is most alluring to those of us who know something of both public schools and libraries.

That again—the California relation of school and library—is a subject deserving separate treatment; it is noted here because in our plan for instruction we have added each year to the subject and for this winter we shall have a heavy course in "Young people and schools," from story-telling to school library organization.

The subject known as "story telling" begins to assume unsuspected phases and is certainly not confined to the telling of stories to children of the "story hour" brand.

It is quite evident that we shall have to drill every student to the point of telling how a thing is done or how strange and interesting things happened in history, science and human affairs, before we have finished with them.

Young women balk at such drill, but it's in the day's work and they'll have to take it willy nilly.

We find that these young women must learn "sign writing" with a brush and an ink bottle and they must learn how to make simple equipment from paper stock, leather and wood. Of course, book repairing is taught. We call all these things "library handicraft," and I teach it myself, which is good enough reason for presenting it as a necessary accomplishment for any person who has to manage a library with little help and less money.

In many communities there are few who understand the high signs and pass words of library science, but many who understand when a librarian saves money. They will concede her science but they understand the dollar.

(Continued)

#### Centenary of Library of Congress

The Library of Congress, as it now exists, was 100 years old, January 30. It was begun by the purchase by Congress of the library of Thomas Jefferson, under authority of a bill passed January 30, 1815.

Mr Jefferson's library was the largest and best selected in the country. It covered a wide range of subjects and was the fitting nucleus of the present Library of Congress. It was bought to take the place of the original Library of Congress, which was destroyed by the British when the Capitol was burned in 1814. Recognizing the loss to the nation, Mr Jefferson wrote, offering his own library on any terms formulated by Congress.

Little more than 2,000 of the original volumes owned by Mr Jefferson are now in existence. They are arranged on steel shelves in the private office of the Superintendent of the reading room. They cannot be taken from the library, but may be consulted under certain conditions by students who cannot obtain elsewhere material contained in them.

The purchase caused bitter dissension, and was strongly opposed by many, under the leadership of Cyrus King, of New York. The price paid was \$23,950, and the collection contained 6,487 volumes.

#### Interesting Things in Print

A list of the publications issued by the Library of Congress since 1897 was published in January.

A list of books recommended for Sunday school and parish libraries by the Church library association, an organization of the Episcopal church, has been issued by that association from Cambridge, Mass.

"A supplementary list of material on geography, which may be obtained free or at small cost," is a valuable contribution of nearly 500 entries, by Mary J. Booth, in the January number of the *Journal of Geography*, published by the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

The Civics extension committee, 116 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, has a quantity of the bibliography on "Housing," which was issued by the Chicago school of civics and philanthropy in 1912, which will be sent for the postage to any library that desires it. The list is of the literature on the subject, in the central libraries in Chicago.

The proceedings of the Ontario library association at its fourteenth annual meeting at Toronto, April 13-14, has been printed by the Legislative assembly of Ontario. Through the generosity of the Government, reports, discussions and papers are all given in full, so that the smallest detail of the proceedings can be found without any difficulty.

Vol. III of the "List of geographical atlases," by F. Lee Phillips, chief of the Division of maps and charts, has been issued by the Library of Congress. This volume is intended as a supplement to the two former volumes issued in 1909. It contains 822 additional atlases mostly received since the publication of the first volumes and a general index.

The Springfield (Mass.) public library has issued Lists of books about foreigners; Books about America for new Americans; Books of romance and adventure for young people; Sports; English-Jewish literature; Life and teachings of Jesus; Charter revision; Astronomy; Aids in drawing and designing and a Catalog of music.

The *Bulletin* of the Indiana state library for December, 1914, is taken up with a review of Indiana products of the finer sort, in an interesting style.

There are short accounts presented of the novelists of Indiana; the poets, historians, artists, statesmen, educators, business men, the institutions of Indiana; picturesque spots in Indiana; natural resources and industries of Indiana; Indiana in the Civil War and Indiana's rank in the Union.

If there is in any quarter a lingering disposition to sneer at Hoosier environment, the record of the December *Bulletin* ought to hold it in check.

Two new publications from the A. L. A. Publishing Board are "Index to kindergarten songs," including singing games and folk songs, by Margery S. Quigley, B. A., of St. Louis, and "Books for boys and girls, a selected list," by Caroline M. Hewins, of Hartford.

One who is not closely in touch with the subject is astonished at the first sight of the size of the "Index to kindergarten songs," with its 286 pages. Surely every bit of grain has been garnered by the author and her assistants, and the result shows something of the resources placed at the service of the public in the St. Louis public library, for which the "Index" was made. The small price, \$1.50, for which other libraries may avail themselves of this labor-saving tool, is incomparable with the value received.

For years, Miss Hewins' "Books for boys and girls" have been the standby of librarians, teachers and many parents, who will rejoice to have this third edition, revised, at hand. The preface "is worth the price" of the book, (20c), several times over, and the lists "made over" will continue to be helpful and pleasurable for a long time to come.

"Makers of America" is a most interesting story by Emma Lilian Dana and issued by the Immigrant Publication Society of New York. These "Makers" are Franklin, Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln. The story is

wonderfully well told. While the main theme is the making of America as shown in the political events of the day, it is so well adorned with personal incidents, descriptions, comments on and quotations from the characters that move through the story, that the result is a fascinating and inspiring acquaintance with men and measures and localities that seems more real than the lapse of time will allow. Nothing better for new Americans has been put out and many a one who claims American birthright would find "Makers of America" a help to their patriotism. Paper 50 cents. Cloth 75 cents. The Society announces in preparation three more little volumes, "A guide to citizenship" by John Foster Carr, "Immigrant and library" Yiddish helps, and a history of the United States (Italian).

#### Available Material

Word from F. R. Fenton, secretary of the Investment Bankers Association of America, asks PUBLIC LIBRARIES to say that the bulletins of the association are available to large libraries. Those who ask to be put on the mailing list of the association will be enrolled.

There is no stated time for publication. The bulletins come out only at times when special information is of value. The information given out is of interest to investment bankers and students of finance.

At intervals, the reports of the committees of the association are also published. During the past year reports have been issued on a variety of subjects, including income tax, currency legislation, blue sky legislation, public service and railroad bonds.

#### Still Open

A note from Mr Hans Harrassowitz of Leipzig states that owing to the neutral pathway there is no interruption of the relation between the German book trade and the American book buyers, though an occasional short delay may be expected.

## News from the Field

## East

Harvard university has received the original manuscript of "America," written by the Reverend S. F. Smith, as a gift from the son of its author.

A bequest of \$30,000 to the town of Amherst, Mass., as a trust fund to be used for the building of a public library to be known as the Munson memorial library, was made in the will of the late Mary J. Munson.

Ethel I. Burwell, N. Y. State, '12-'13, substituted for the reference librarian at the New Britain (Conn.) Institute library during December and the first of January began a temporary engagement as cataloger at Brown University library, Providence, R. I.

A children's Christmas exhibition lasting from November 25 to December 23, was held in the Public library of Haverhill, Mass. As suggestions for Christmas gifts for the older people, a display of Medici prints was made at the same time. The usual evergreen decorations and the bright colors of the Medici prints made the otherwise sombre room very attractive.

Twelve stained glass windows, the gift of Mr and Mrs G. W. Pepper and Mr William Fisher, of London, England, in memory of Professor G. P. Fisher, have been installed in Yale University library above the main entrance.

The windows portray the growth of literature with figures of writers from Oriental narrators to American men of letters. Professor Fisher was for many years in the Yale divinity school.

Luther Livingston, lately appointed librarian of the Widener collection of Harvard University library, died December 23. Mr Livingston was one of the best known bibliographers in the country. He was the originator and editor of the "American book of prices," and was long connected with the publishing house of Dodd, Mead & Co. He was the author of many notable works on American history and literature.

## Central Atlantic

Donald B. Gilchrist, N. Y. State, '15, began work January 16 as assistant in the New York state library.

Dorothy Kent, N. Y. P. L., '13, has been appointed librarian of the South Side high school, Newark.

Mary B. Snyder, N. Y. P. L., '13, has been appointed librarian of the Barringer high school, Newark.

Mary E. Baillet, senior, L. S. of N. Y. P. L., has been appointed librarian of the Irvington, N. J., public library which is now being organized.

Hannah M. Lawrence, vice-librarian of the Free library at Hagerstown, Md., has resigned to become supervisor of branches at the Buffalo public library.

The appropriation for the Carnegie library of Pittsburgh was cut nearly one third in the city's budget committee report. If carried through, the cut will greatly curtail the activities of the library.

The late Dr Willard Fiske, formerly of Syracuse, bequeathed the income from \$442,000 to be used for the general purposes of the library of Cornell university. In addition, an endowment for the maintenance of several collections in the library is made separately, as well as a gift of something near 25,000 v.

Katharine B. Judson, N. Y. State, '04-'05, joined the staff of the New York state library on January 1, as sub-librarian in history. Miss Judson was research assistant in northwest history at the University of Washington, 1911-12, and has recently returned from a year's work in London as holder of the A. C. A. Alice Freeman Palmer scholarship.

The report of the library of the Brooklyn Institute of arts and sciences records an especially fine gift of paintings from a Brooklyn artist, long a resident of Paris. The collection is especially strong in animal studies.

The work of the library has been somewhat handicapped because of repairs to the building during the year. There is pressing need for more room



for the housing and display of library material.

The Richards library building of Warrensburgh, N. Y., was destroyed by fire December 21. The value of the property was estimated at \$18,000, and the insurance on it was \$5,000. The building was erected in 1900, and was greatly enlarged in 1911. The records, museum material and a few of the books were saved.

The Public library of Olean, N. Y., records 12,232 v. on the shelves, from which 60,826 v. were lent for home use. Of these, 22,532 were issued in the juvenile department. There are 2,001 books in the children's room. Close coöperation with the schools has been carried on during the year.

The library has had exhibits and free lectures which have attracted attention. Lists of books have been posted in the schools, Y. M. C. A., Chamber of commerce and other places.

By the will of Mrs M. A. P. Draper, the New York public library is to receive \$450,000, together with a large and valuable collection of engravings, prints and portraits. Mrs Draper provided in her will that the income of \$50,000 of the bequest to the New York public library was to be used to assist employes of the library who are ill or otherwise disabled; \$200,000 of the fund is to be kept in trust for the purpose of buying books for the library as a memorial to Dr J. S. Billings, formerly its librarian.

The L. F. Grammes & Sons Company of Allentown, Pa., dedicated with a banquet to its 300 employes the free library which the firm has established and turned over for the use of the employes, on December 30.

The library contains 1,900 volumes for the 300 employes and was arranged and organized at a cost of \$5,000. The most of the books are along the lines of the interests of the business, covering every department and its various relations.

The idea back of the library is to furnish an opportunity to the employes for self-education by reading the latest and best authorities on the subjects in which

they are interested. There is little of pure literary work, but everything that will tend to give information or knowledge along studious lines will be found at hand for the employes.

Ruth Davies, an employe of the company, will care for the library and be on hand to meet the borrowers at the noon hour and after office hours. About two-thirds of the employes enrolled as borrowers in about two weeks after the library was opened.

The Pratt Institute free library in completing its twenty-seventh year is a composite institution with a three-fold function administered for the equal advantage of each of the three constituent elements of its activity—work with the *Institute*, the *Library School*, and the *Public*.

As members of the staff complete 25 years of continuous service with the library, provision has been made by the trustees for them to enjoy a six months' leave of absence with a special financial stipulation that shall make possible a vacation of the greatest advantage.

Total number of books lent for home use 1913-14, 207,787, showing a steady increase characteristic of recent years. A self-contained work in a staid community does not offer opportunity for spectacular growth, but during the past ten years the annual circulation has increased 67,000.

The total collection of bound books now numbers 106,282, a net increase of a little more than a thousand over the year before. The slow growth is due to careful inspection of resources and the free discarding of old material when it becomes dead. Over 4,000 volumes were discarded last year.

The Pratt contribution to the Leipsic exhibition was carefully worked out, showing especially the work of the applied science room, children's room, and library school. The most effective element from Pratt Institute at Leipsic was Mr Hendry's part as representative in charge of the A. L. A. exhibit during June and July and as A. L. A.

delegate to the Geneva library conference.

The work in the technical department was extended in the direction of training young men from the Institute school of science and technology in the practical use of a library.

Giving children the means of playing in the library grounds has brought many to the use of the children's room, so that the summer months are among the busiest of the year in this department.

A "Children's tree" was planted by the children themselves to teach love of nature and to adorn their own entrance.

The transformation of the public catalog into dictionary form has been begun and completed through the letter C, and the requirement that all cards in future shall be typed or printed is a radical change introduced last year.

#### Central

Florence E. Reynolds, for 20 years an assistant in the Public library of Grand Rapids, Mich., died January 3.

Stella Hanson, recently librarian of the Public library, Mankato, Minn., and Willis Marshall Pinkham, were married December 13.

The registration includes 17,557 borrowers. The total circulation was 165,307 v.; number of volumes on the shelves, 32,790.

Ella Adams has been elected librarian of the Public library of Hutchinson, Minn., to succeed Marjorie Wakefield, resigned.

Stuart R. Boland, formerly city solicitor of Columbus, O., has been appointed director of the Legislative Reference Bureau of Ohio, salary \$3,000 a year.

Miss Elva Greef has been elected librarian of the Public library of Clarinda, Ia., to succeed Cornelia D. Plaister, who resigned to take charge of a branch library at Sioux City.

Fanny Duren, librarian of the Public library of Waterloo for eight years, has resigned her position to take charge of

one of the branches of the Minneapolis public library.

Mrs Nettie K. Gravett, formerly state librarian of Colorado, has been elected Superintendent of the traveling libraries department of the Ohio state library, to succeed Daisy M. Smith.

A memorial to the legislature of Michigan, the session of 1915, by the Michigan library association, presents the danger to the inestimably valuable material in its state library and urges an appropriation to build a new fireproof building for the state library.

The Public library staff at Peru, Ind., prepared a municipal Christmas tree for the children on the public library grounds. The tree stood on a slope so that the large crowd could see it from every point and was thoroughly enjoyed by the citizens of the place.

Katharine Lewis, Illinois, '12-'15, has been in charge of the library of the Bennett medical college, Loyola university, Chicago. Miss Lewis will return to the University of Illinois library school for the last semester to complete her work and receive her degree next June.

Miss Eliza G. Browning, librarian of the Indianapolis public library, has added to her manifold experiences that of contact with holdup men. The lung power exerted by the group in which Miss Browning was going home frightened the burglars before they were able to secure any booty.

Mrs R. M. Blakeslee, for 26 years librarian of the Graves public library at Mendota, Ill., resigned her position in December. The library has grown almost five-fold under Mrs Blakeslee's care, and the minutes of the board of trustees express the deepest gratitude for the service Mrs Blakeslee has rendered the community.

The report of the Public library of East Chicago and Indiana Harbor, a dual institution serving both towns, records a circulation of 44,002 v., an increase of nearly one-third over the previous year. Additional new books, 1,864 v., twice the purchase of 1913.

Readers in the library, 34,122; borrowers' cards in force, 1,238.

The number of card holders reported by the Public library of Kansas City, Mo., is 43,656, an increase of 11,336; number of volumes lent during the past year was 497,629, an increase of 100,000 over the previous year. A new branch library for negroes was established and two new mercantile stations were put in operation.

A. J. Perry, for nearly 19 years a member of the board of trustees of the Public library of Galesburg, Ill., died January 6, after a short illness. Mr Perry was always a leading spirit in the development and progress of the Galesburg public library, and in his death the institution has lost a valuable member of its board and a genuine believer in library service.

A beautiful new library building at Hobart, Ind., from a gift of \$16,000 from Andrew Carnegie, was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies Sunday afternoon, January 10. Addresses were made by Judge O. L. Wildermuth, Mrs F. A. Werner and Miss M. E. Ahern. The library will be used as a branch of the Public library of Gary, Ind., and will be supported by a township tax.

The annual report of the Public library of Huntington, Ind., Winifred Ticer, librarian, records the year 1914 as the most successful in the history of the library. The number of card holders was 2,033; the total circulation, 50,761. There were 1,185 books added to the shelves. A small deposit of books has been sent each month to the school buildings, and attractive posters have been sent to the shops and railroad yard offices.

The report of the Free library of Madison, Wis., records that every class of non-fiction in the main library except three has increased in circulation, and that fiction has dropped from 62 to 60 per cent. There was a circulation of 20,427 books through the schools and 7,641 pictures were lent.

Library instruction has been given in all eight grades of the public and parochial schools save one of the latter. The assembly rooms in the branches

were used from November through March for Sunday lectures.

The Italian consular agent, Senor Attilio Castigliano, with jurisdiction over the State of Minnesota, has taken up the matter of books for Italians in a number of libraries in that state. The Dante Alighieri society of Rome is preparing to make gifts of Italian books where the proper arrangements can be made with the library authorities. Duluth, Chisholm, Virginia and Hibbing have already started Italian sections in their libraries. These libraries are also making arrangements to have programs with addresses and musical entertainments to bring about a feeling of friendliness with the Italians living in the community.

A life-sized portrait of the late Hon Adlai E. Stevenson, formerly vice-president of the United States, was unveiled at the Public library at Bloomington, Ill., November 26. The unveiling was made the occasion of a number of addresses by prominent citizens, who paid tribute to Mr Stevenson not only as a public man and a statesman, a distinguished wit and orator, but as a citizen who held his community and his home in the highest esteem and honor. The portrait was presented by the citizens of Bloomington through voluntary contributions. The artist was Arvid Nyholm, one of the leading portrait painters of the day.

The annual report of the Public library of Council Bluffs, Ia., records an increase of 50 per cent in the circulation of the library in the last two years. Of the circulation of 136,029 v., 45 per cent was issued to adult readers; 28 per cent to children and 27 per cent from the schools; 2,110 new readers were registered during the past year. Total number of borrowers' cards in force, 8,764.

A small collection of Danish books proved so popular that a few Danish citizens gave \$25 for the purchase of more books in their language.

The use of the club rooms has increased and eight clubs now hold regular meetings there.

The forty-third annual report of the Public library of Grand Rapids, Mich., shows an expenditure of \$40,958 for maintenance. It also shows an expenditure of \$7,933 for books and \$2,079 for periodicals. The maintenance fund is supplied by city taxes, and the book and periodical funds are received from fines, income from trust funds, etc.

The number of books in the library is 139,602, of which 40,000 are in the reference department.

The report discusses at length the need of more books in foreign languages. More than half the population of Grand Rapids are foreign born, or the first generation of Americans from other than English speaking peoples. With the Ryerson library building as a center, there is, within a radius of 30 miles, the largest Holland population anywhere outside of the Netherlands.

The librarian states that he is convinced that the issue of books, except seven-day books, for a period of four weeks without renewal, except such books as will be issued on special cards for a longer period, increases the educational value of the library.

The circulation for home use was 368,127 v., an increase of about 5,000 over the preceding year. There were 315,675 recorded readers in the reading room; 43,581 persons attended art and other exhibitions; 18,845 attended library lectures, and 12,789 attended the story hour.

The University of Illinois library school was greatly shocked to hear of the death of Lorena Webber, until recently librarian of the Public library, Jacksonville, Illinois. Miss Webber was well and favorably known to the library people of Illinois and vicinity for the past seven years.

She was a graduate of Iowa college, Grinnell, Iowa, B. S. in 1898. She attended the Illinois library school, 1903-04, receiving the degree of A. B. in library science, in June, 1904.

Before going into library work Miss Webber had been a teacher in the public schools in Iowa and Montana. She returned to Iowa, where for four years

she was active in library work. In April, 1908, she was appointed librarian of the Public library, Jacksonville, Ill., and it was in that position perhaps that her work received the most favorable recognition.

The librarians of the State of Illinois looked upon Miss Webber as one of their most intelligent, progressive and capable workers. About a year ago the death of a member of her family made it necessary for her to resign her position at Jacksonville. This decision was further strengthened by the feeling that her health was not good and that she needed a long rest and a complete change of surroundings. Early last summer her illness became serious and she went to Boulder, Colorado, upon the advice of physicians, where her death occurred on December 27. F. S.

#### South

Cora Todd, who has been in charge of the Children's department of the Rosenberg library, Galveston, has resigned to take charge of the children's work in the Detroit public library.

The appointment of Mr. Morgan P. Robinson to the position of head of the Department of archives and history should have been credited to the Virginia state library and not to the Georgia institution, as was stated before.

Mrs Moses D. Wadley, of Augusta, Ga., has given funds to the American Seaman's Friends society of New York, to provide a library for seamen in memory of Mrs Woodrow Wilson. The library was placed on board the Honolulan.

The tenth annual report of the Public library of Chattanooga, Tenn., records 30,032 v. on the shelf; a membership of 13,163 and a total circulation of 120,909 v., with 13,473 card holders. The library has a number of branches throughout the county.

The prospect for better library conditions in Knoxville, Tenn., was very much brightened by the recent decision of the Supreme Court of that state, which held

that the bequest of the late Charles McGhee for a memorial library could be merged with the city library. The fund left by Col McGhee will be used for a new building and the city's library taxes will maintain it.

The Public library of Ft. Smith, Ark., reports a year of activity and definite results, notwithstanding the fact that the funds for the library have been very much reduced. The book fund, particularly, is very small. The children's room is suffering for books, but by means of stories, the interest in the work is kept up.

The circulation for the year was 39,249; registration, 6,171; additions to the library, 490; number of volumes in library, 7,236.

The work has been extended to distant parts of the city in two or three instances, but it cannot be developed very far because of the lack of books.

A very interesting occasion was the one in which portraits of Sidney Lanier, Edgar Allen Poe and Joe Chandler Harris were presented to the children's room of the Public library at Greensboro, N. C. The portraits were given by friends of the writers and the occasion of their acceptance by the library was made a holiday for the children, 300 of whom were present. Instead of the usual speech of acceptance by a trustee of the library, the portraits were received by a small boy, who made an unusually good speech. It was enthusiastically received by the audience, despite the fact that he was so small that he was crowded out of sight by a number who were standing up in the front of the room.

#### West

Mrs Clara H. Savary, for 19 years librarian of the Public library of Boulder, Colo., has resigned. Her successor has not yet been appointed.

Anna B. Skinner, Wis. '11, for the past two years librarian of the Public library of Boise, Idaho, has resigned her position and will be married in the summer to Mr C. E. Winstead of Boise.

Myra O'Brien, Illinois, B. L. S., '07, has resigned her position in the library of the University of Chicago and has accepted the position of Legislative librarian in the Kansas state library, Topeka, Kansas.

The Kansas library association is hoping to have the legislature of that state empower the Traveling library commission to employ a library organizer to supervise library work throughout the state.

A survey of the progress of the library movement in Utah, which shows the work to be in a very active growing condition, was given in the *Deseret Evening News* December 19, by Mary E. Downey, state library organizer for Utah. Seventeen towns in the state have levied taxes for library maintenance. In addition to the beautiful building at Salt Lake City given by Mr Packard, 16 other towns are, or soon will be, provided with library buildings by Andrew Carnegie. There is the closest coöperation between the state library movement and the State department of public instruction.

#### Pacific Coast

Mrs D. L. McClelland, for several years a member of the staff of the Public library at Seattle, Wash., has been appointed librarian at Juneau, Alaska.

Sally Clarkson, Pratt, '09, has resigned from the staff of the Ypsilanti Normal School library to accept the position of children's librarian in the Seattle public library.

Sabra W. Vought, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '01, is assisting temporarily in the Utica (N. Y.) public library and will go to the Riverside (Cal.) public library in February to teach in the winter short course of the library service school.

The Public library of Seattle will find itself somewhat lacking in expected funds on account of the recent adoption of the Prohibition amendment in Washington. The library board had made its 1915 budget on the assumption that it would receive the usual 10 per cent from



license revenues as in previous years. It is hoped that special arrangements will be made to save the library from curtailed activity.

The report of the Public library of Long Beach, Cal., records a circulation of 298,325 v., in a population of about 40,000, with 32,561 v. on the shelves. There was a circulation of 44,093 pictures and stereoscopic views. Miss Zaidee Brown, formerly organizer for the Massachusetts library commission, is librarian.

The library of the University of Oregon is now occupying largely increased quarters with its collection of 52,000 v. In addition to the work for the university itself, the library lends to the citizens of the state for a month at a time, such books as can be spared from the work, to Oregon teachers, ministers, club women and others who are registered with the university as desiring such help.

Weekly lists of additions to the library are published and are sent to ministers and others requesting them. Special reading lists on subjects of general interest are also issued. The high schools particularly are served by receiving lists of books of which the library has from 10 to 30 copies of text editions, particularly of the classics.

The librarian, Mr M. H. Douglas, reports growing interest in the plan.

The Stanford university, California, has received a gift of over 20,000 books and pamphlets, comprising the geological collection of President Branner. Many of the magazines and reports could not be obtained from other sources.

Dr Branner was head of the Department of geology and mining from the beginning of the university to last year, when he accepted the presidency of Stanford university. The department had little means for the collection of a library, but Dr Branner, on his own initiative, began an extensive and careful collection of books and reports. The burden of caring for the books became so great that it was taken over by the university five years ago, but remaining the property of Dr Branner. In many instances it constitutes the only authentic

record of geological observations on the coast to be had, and as the material becomes more valuable year by year, the university thought it best to add it permanently to the university library.

#### Foreign

Vilhelm Slomann, B. L. S., N. Y. State, '14, has been appointed sub-librarian of the Public library, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Mr S. A. Pitt, formerly superintendent of district libraries in Glasgow, and for some time librarian of the Public library, Coventry, has been appointed city librarian of the Mitchell library, Glasgow, to succeed Mr Francis T. Barrett, L.L. D., retired.

#### Library Comparisons

A very enlightening circular has been issued by the Board of directors of the Chicago public library, telling "What it has, what it does, and what it needs."

The city has a population of 2,400,000 and an area of 192 square miles to serve.

In five years the library's work has increased 96 per cent, its revenues less than 15 per cent. It has 400,000 books for home circulation. With the small amount of money and the inadequate supply of books, the library manages 32 branches (it owns only three branch buildings), and the home circulation totals 4,000,000 issues.

Chicago's population is approximately four times that of Boston or Cleveland, the library income is approximately the same. Chicago has only 24 books per 100 inhabitants; Boston has 148 books; Cleveland has 82. Boston spends 51 cents per capita; Cleveland, 45 cents, Chicago, 15 cents. For general city purposes, 48.06 per cent of the city's income is paid; for school expenses, 47.63 per cent; for library purposes, 1.26 per cent.

Measures for betterment of these conditions are under consideration.

#### Nature's Nobleman

John Muir, author and naturalist, died at Daggett, California, the day before Christmas, and was buried at

Muir three days later. There will be many tributes paid him by nature lovers all over the world, but none more expressive and heartfelt than the brief talk given at his funeral by his friend, William Frederic Bade, who officiated at the services. The following is condensed from the account given in the *San Francisco Chronicle*:

After one of the last conversations I had with John Muir, Mr Bade said, I noted down these words of his: "Longest is the life that contains the largest amount of time-effacing enjoyment; of work that is a steady delight. Such a life may really comprise an eternity upon earth." Those were John Muir's words, Mr. Bade continued. To few men is it given to realize so completely the element of eternity—of time-effacing enjoyment in work—as it was to John Muir. The secret of that eternity was in his soul—the soul of a child, of a poet, and of a strong man all blended in one.

"I will lift mine eyes to the hills," says the psalmist, "whence cometh my help." Men who lift their eyes at all from the commonplace ideals of everyday life fix them on the snowy crests of human thought and achievement, thence deriving their power to hope and to toil. Among those who have won title to remembrance as prophets and interpreters of nature and of nature's God, John Muir rises to moral as well as a poetical altitude that will command the wondering attention of men so long as human records endure.

The services at the graveside were brief. Before the body was lowered out of sight, a member of the Sierra Club placed on the coffin a bough of the *Sequoia gigantea* which the naturalist had planted with his own hand near what is now his grave. When the ceremonies were over and the mourners moved away, then came the shades of evening and the shadows of John Muir's pet trees crept fondly toward his grave.

Nature I loved; and next to Nature, Art.  
I warm'd both hands against the fire of life;  
It sinks, and I am ready to depart.

—Landor.

"The educational value of museums," by Louise Connolly, edited and with an introduction by J. C. Dana, is issued by the Newark museum association.

The report is full of intensely interesting personal comments on the subject of museums in general, the contents, the administration, the value and influence of museums, set down by two intensely interesting persons whose manner of thought, expression and whose reach toward conclusions are unique and always interesting.

In the museum idea, as in his library work, Mr Dana's ideals are so far ahead of the grasp of the ordinary individual that he seems to be portraying almost unknown conditions. As a torch bearer, showing roads that lead to worth while goals, Mr Dana excites the greatest admiration from his beholders, but woe betide the ordinary traveler who tries with ordinary equipment and without something of personal power to keep up with the stride which is Mr Dana's natural walk!

Miss Connolly's account of the 65 visits which she made with a view to expanding the space and the arrangements for the material which had been accumulated by the Newark museum, is a story full of information and vitally interesting, such as one expects when opportunity offers to listen to Miss Connolly's account of anything in which she is engaged, school work, library work or educational work generally.

The late assistant attorney-general of the United States, James M. Beck, has written a volume on "The evidence in the case in the Supreme Court of civilization."

Mr Beck, who is one of the ablest jurists of the country, presents in an analysis the evidence given in the official papers, British, German, Russian, Belgian, in regard to the causation of the war.

The style of Mr Beck's writing is most alluring, and whatever one's sympathy may be with Mr Beck's presentation of the case, the story is told interestingly, and from the eminence of the writer will form one of the permanent contributions to the literature of the war.